

Probabilistic and Differentiable Programming in Scientific Simulators



Atılım Güneş Baydin

*Joint work with Lukas Heinrich, Wahid Bhimji, Barak Pearlmutter,
Don Syme, Philip Torr, Kyle Cranmer, Frank Wood and others*

*Collège de France
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Outline

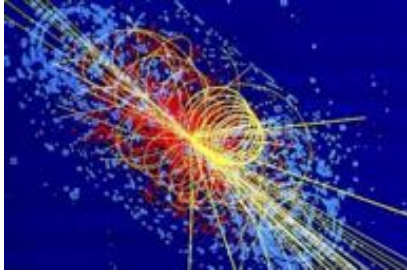
- **Probabilistic programming** and (scientific) simulators
 - Etalumis: existing simulators as probabilistic programs
 - Extensions: replacing the simulator entirely
- **Differentiable programming** and simulators
 - When autodiff is not feasible
 - When autodiff is feasible
- DiffSharp, recent work with Don Syme
- Community
 - MODE collaboration (CERN)
 - MIAPbP event (Munich)



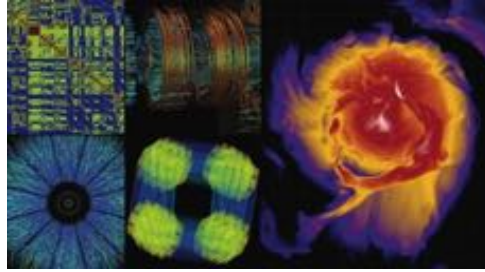
Probabilistic programming
and scientific simulators

Simulation and physical sciences

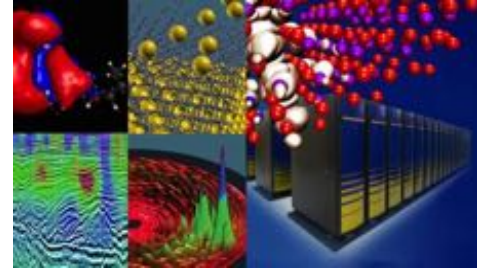
Computational models and simulation are key to scientific advance at all scales



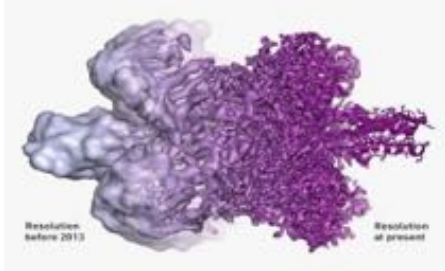
Particle physics



Nuclear physics



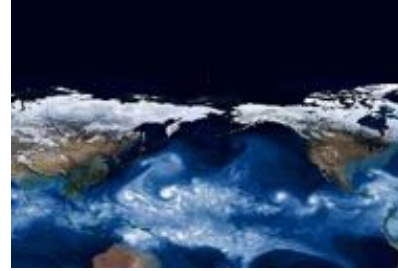
Material design



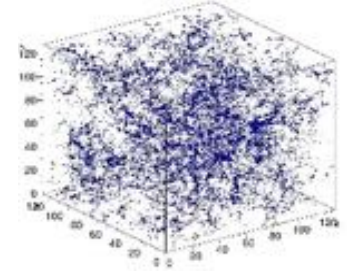
Drug discovery



Weather

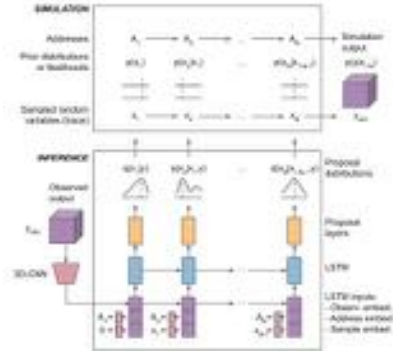


Climate science

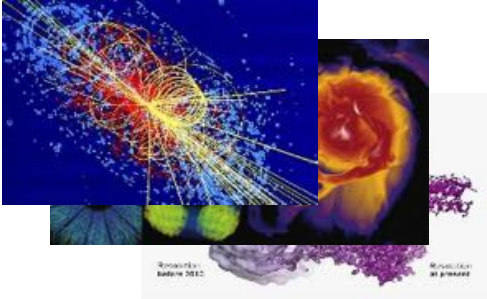


Cosmology

Introducing a new way to use existing simulators

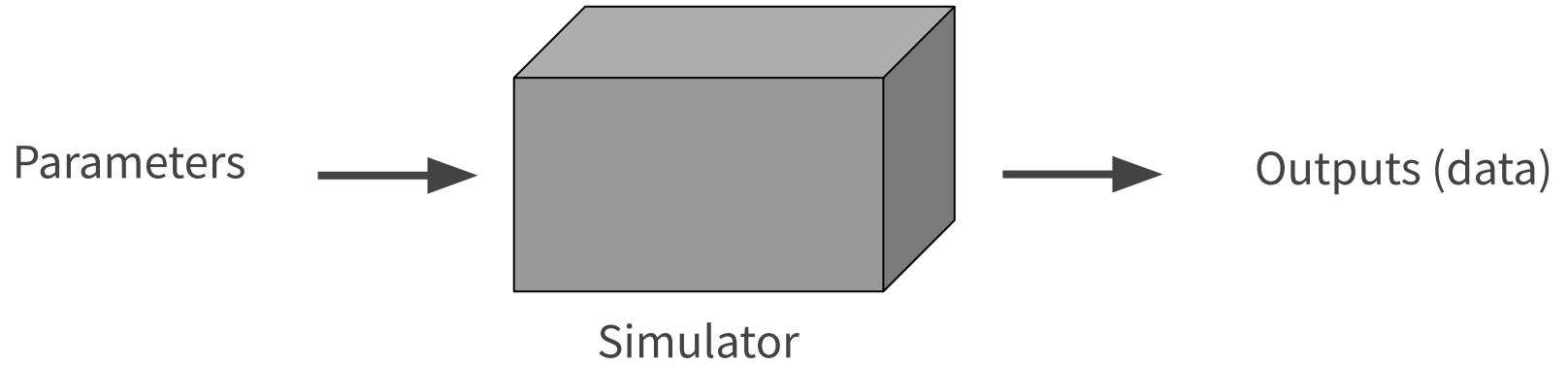


Probabilistic programming

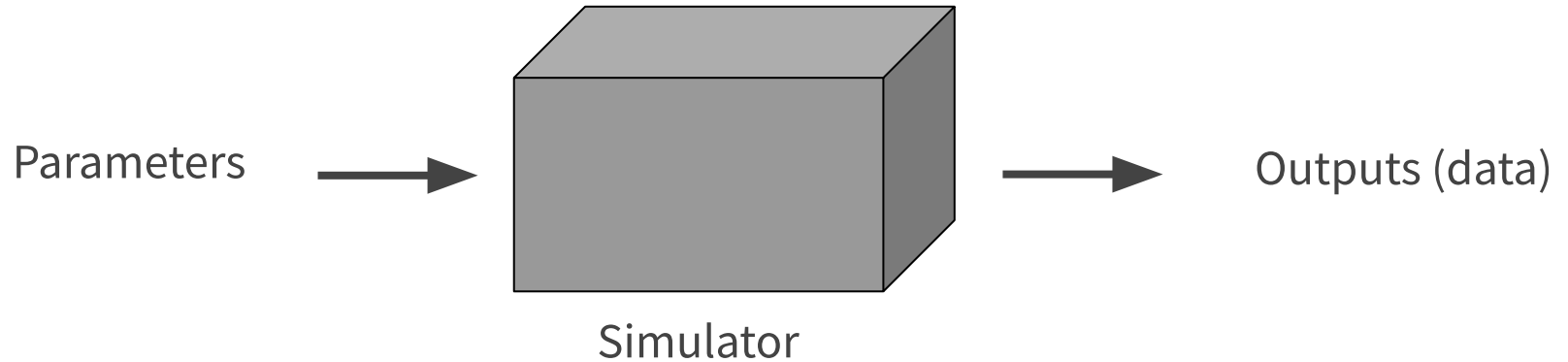


Simulation

Simulators



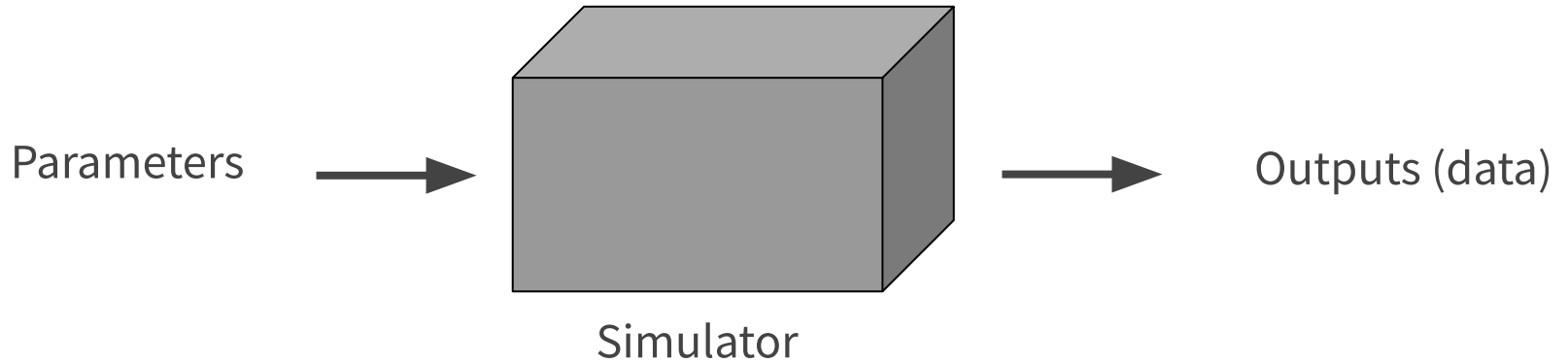
Simulators



Prediction:

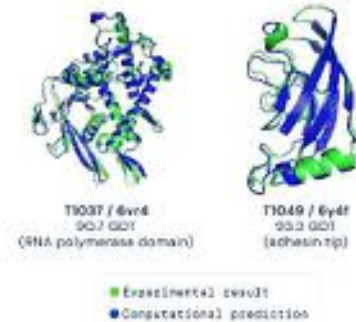
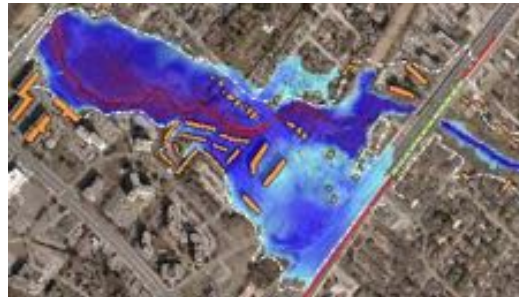
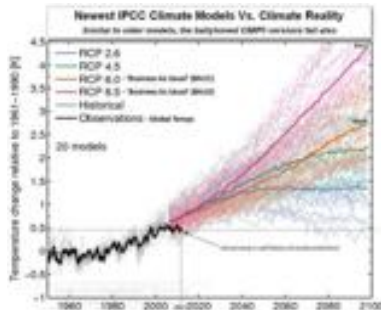
- Simulate forward evolution of the system
- Generate samples of output

Simulators

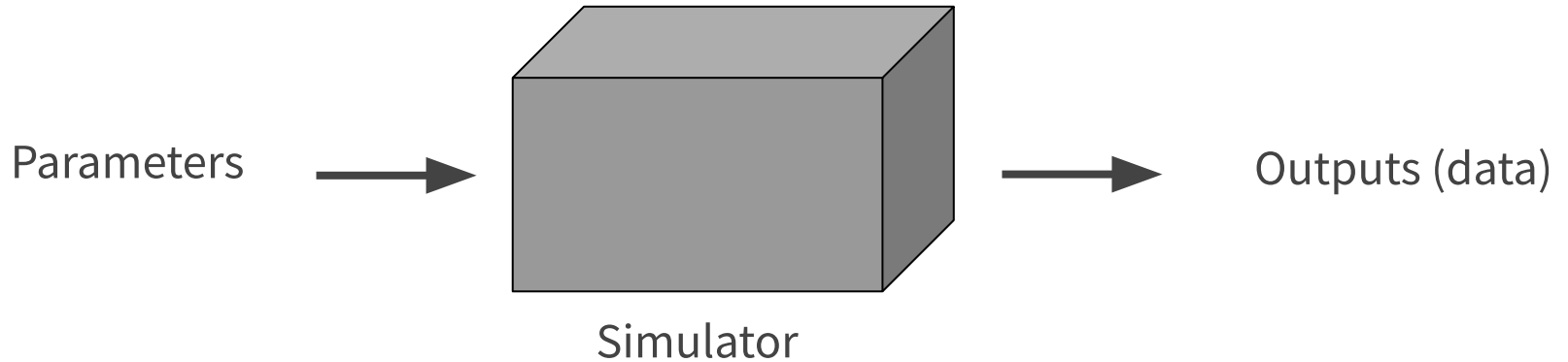


Prediction:

- Simulate forward evolution of the system
- Generate samples of output



Simulators



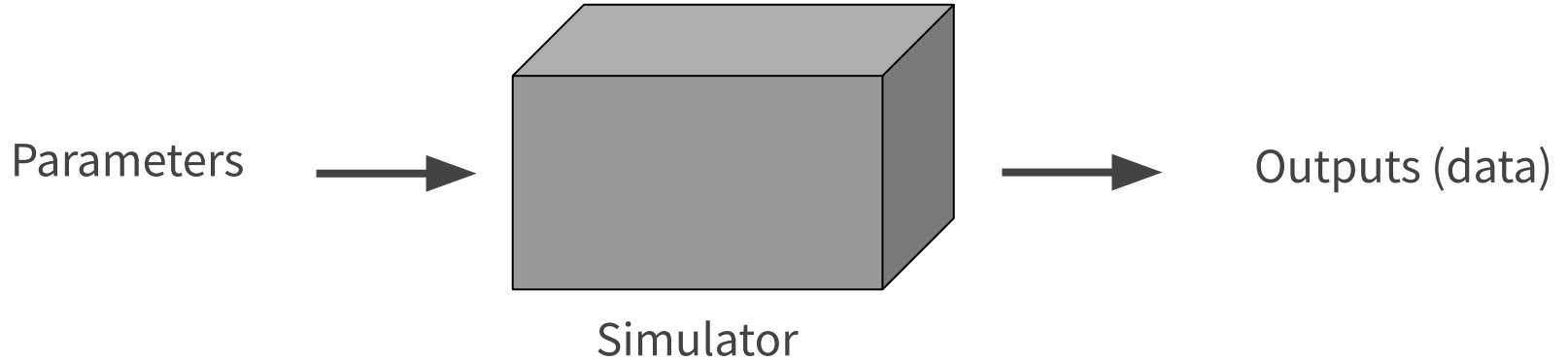
Prediction:

- Simulate forward evolution of the system
- Generate samples of output



WE NEED THE INVERSE!

Simulators



Prediction:

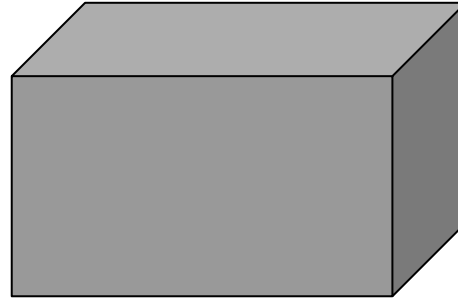
- Simulate forward evolution of the system
- Generate samples of output

Inference:

- Find parameters that can produce (explain) observed data
- Inverse problem
- Often a manual process

Simulators

Parameters



Outputs (data)

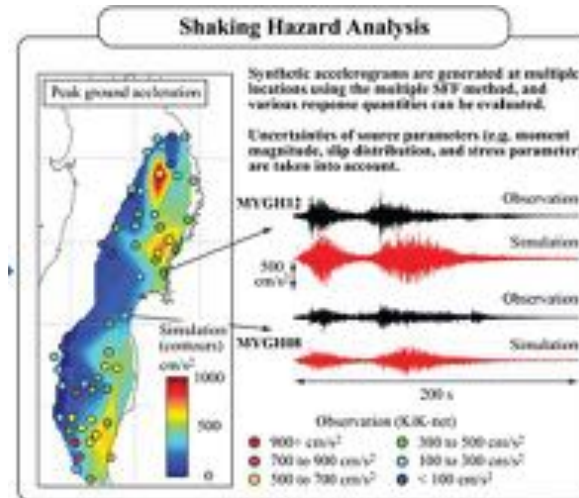
Inferred parameters



Observed data

Simulator

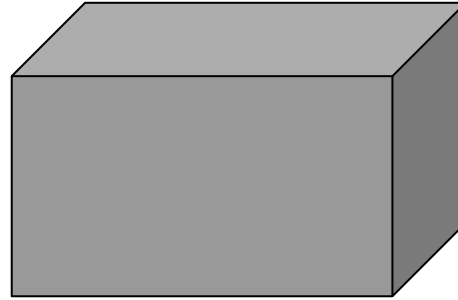
Earthquake location & characteristics



Seismometer readings

Simulators

Parameters



Outputs (data)

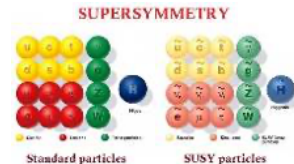
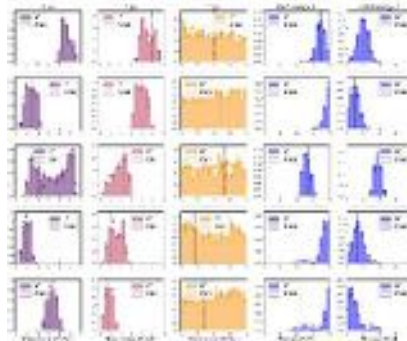
Inferred parameters



Simulator

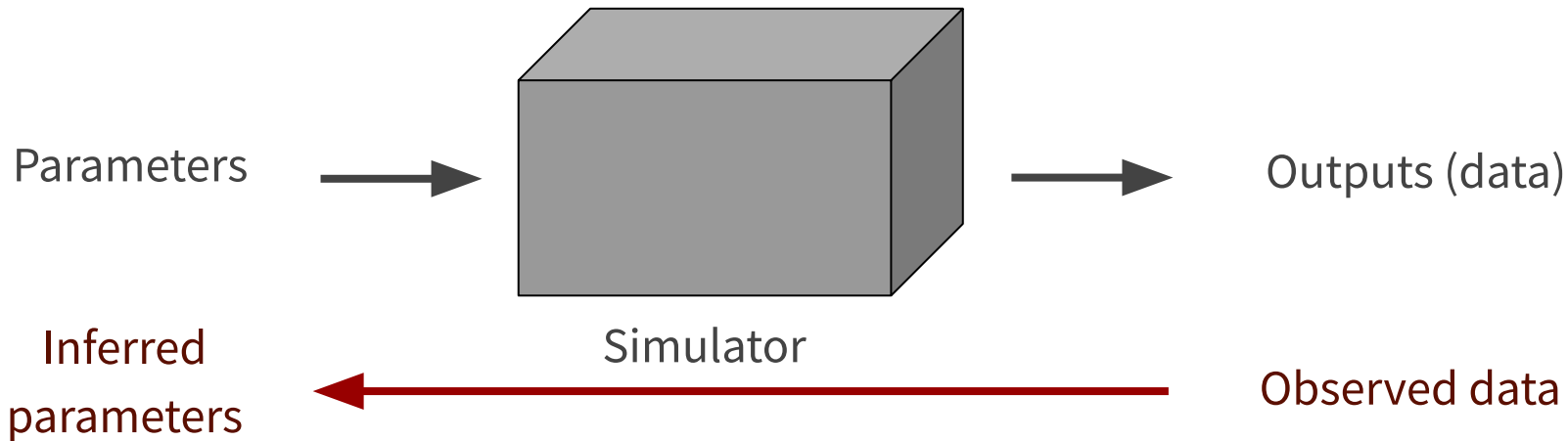
Observed data

Event analyses &
new particle
discoveries



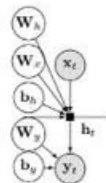
Particle detector
readings

Inverting a simulator



Probabilistic programming is the perfect tool for inference

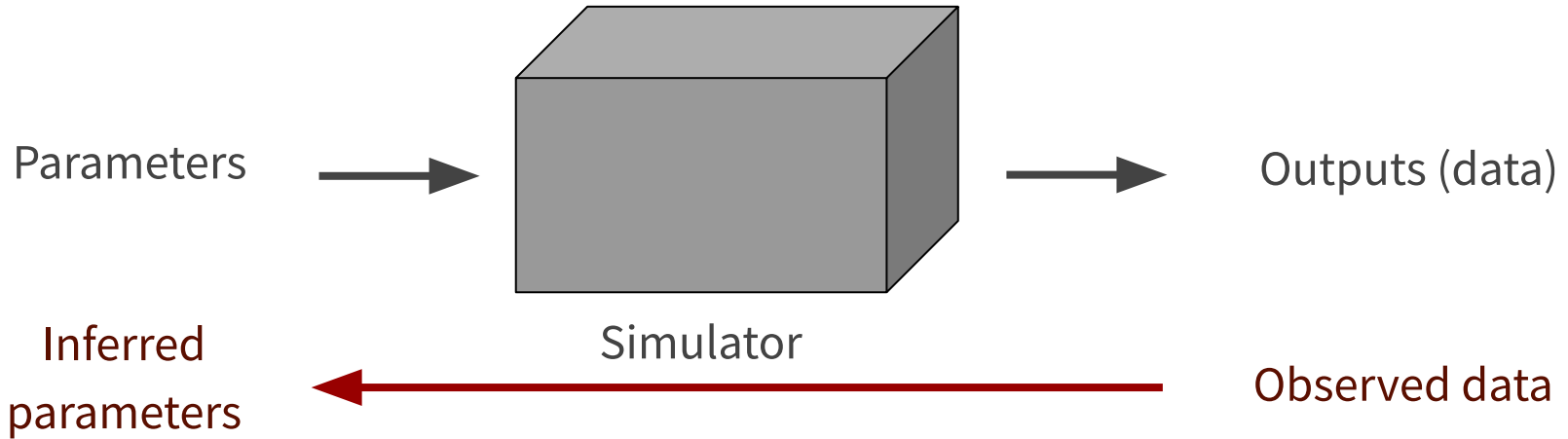
- write **programs that define probabilistic models**
- run automated Bayesian **inference of parameters conditioned on observed outputs** (data)



```
1 def rnn_cell(prew, st):
2     return tf.tanh(tf.dot(prew, Wx) + tf.dot(st, Wx) + bx)
3
4 Wx = Normal(mu=tf.zeros([D, H]), sigma=tf.ones([D, H]))
5 Wx = Normal(mu=tf.zeros([D, H]), sigma=tf.ones([D, H]))
6 Wx = Normal(mu=tf.zeros([D, H]), sigma=tf.ones([D, H]))
7 Wx = Normal(mu=tf.zeros([D, H]), sigma=tf.ones([D, H]))
8 by = Normal(mu=tf.zeros(1), sigma=tf.ones(1))
9
10 x = tf.placeholder(tf.float32, [None, D])
11 h = tf.scalar_cell(x, initializer=tf.zeros([D])
12 y = Normal(mu=tf.matmul(h, Wy) + by, sigma=1.0)
```



Inverting a simulator



Probabilistic programming is the perfect tool for inference

- write
- run
- **Somewhat limited to **small-scale problems****
- Normally requires one to **implement a probabilistic model from scratch** in the chosen language/system

```
cell @prev, st):  
    tf.tanh(tf.dot @prev, M) + tf.dot(xt, M) + b))  
    mu=tf.zeros([P, H]), sigma=tf.ones([P, H])  
    mu=tf.zeros([D, H]), sigma=tf.ones([D, H])  
    mu=tf.zeros([P, I]), sigma=tf.ones([P, I])  
    mu=tf.zeros([H]), sigma=tf.ones([H])  
    mu=tf.zeros(I), sigma=tf.ones(I))  
  
    softmax=tf.nn.softmax(logits, axis=-1)  
    softmax_cell_x.initializer=tf.zeros([D])  
    softmax_cell_y.initializer=tf.zeros([D])
```



Pyro

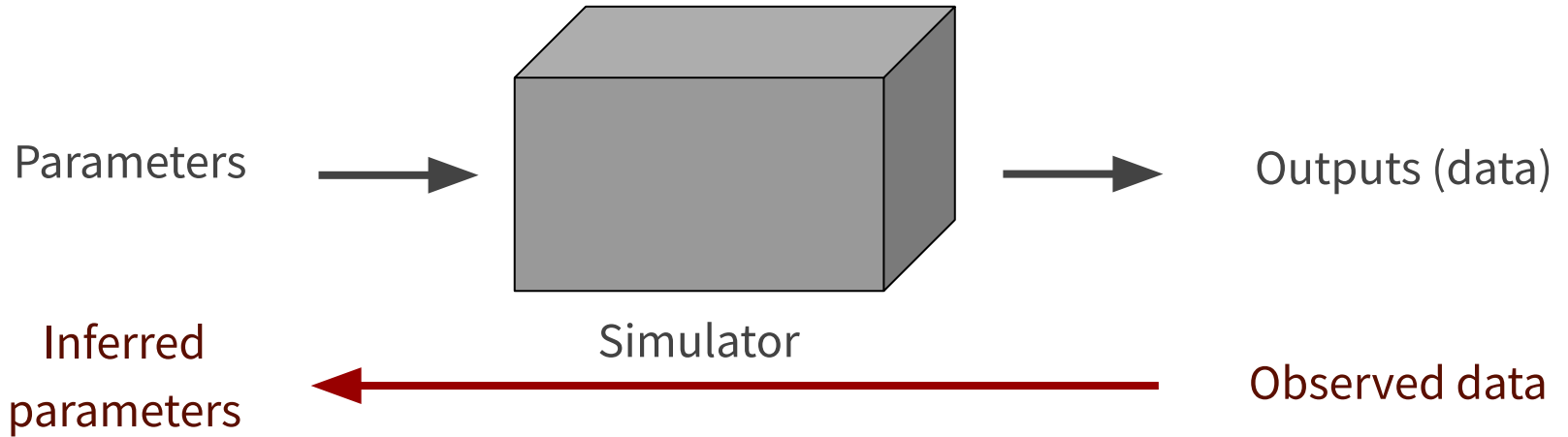


Edward



Stan

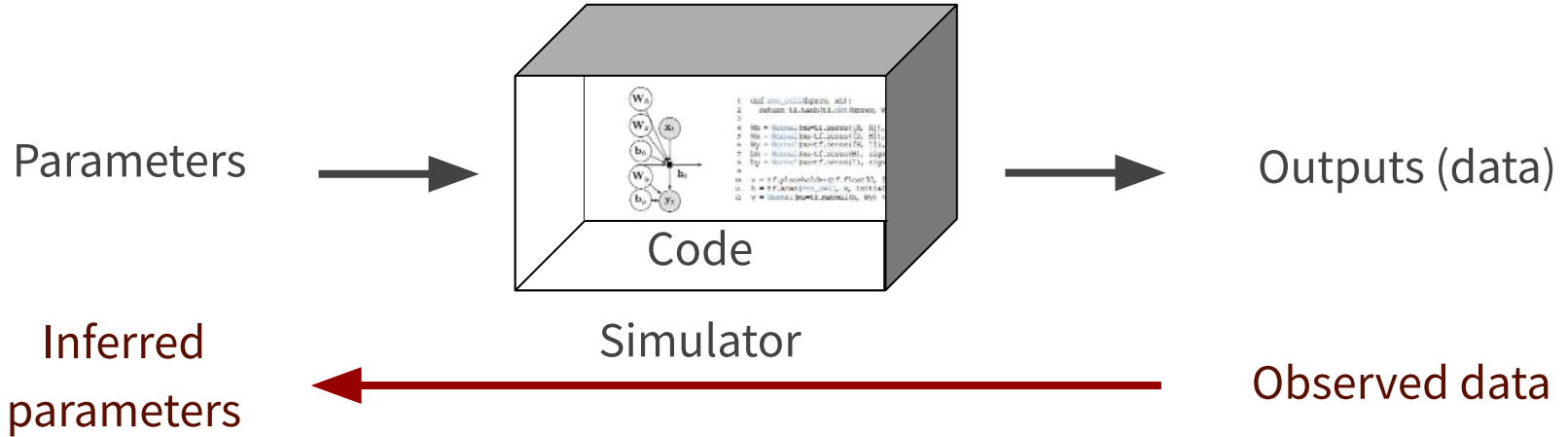
Inverting a simulator



Key idea:

Many simulators are stochastic and they define probabilistic models by sampling random numbers

Inverting a simulator

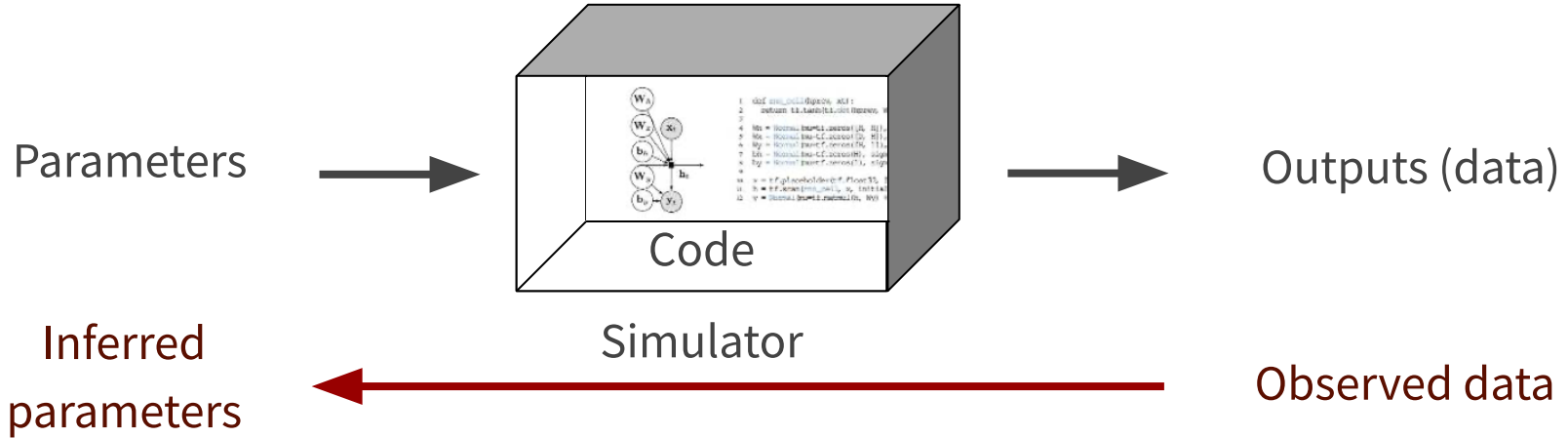


Key idea:

Many simulators are stochastic and they define probabilistic models by sampling random numbers

Simulators are probabilistic programs!

Inverting a simulator

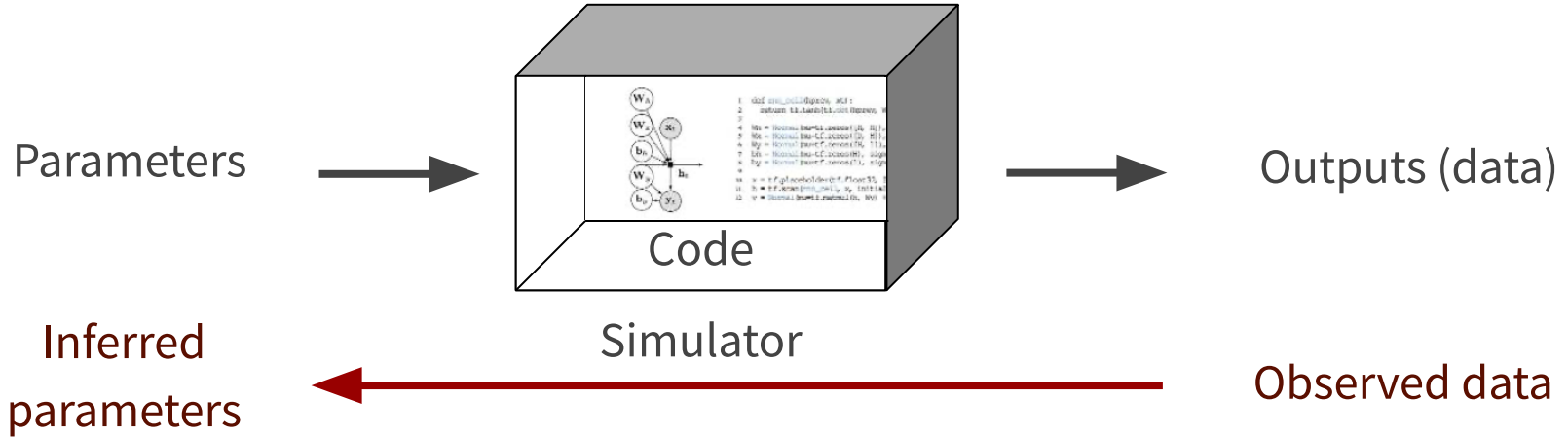


Key idea:

Many simulators are stochastic and they define probabilistic models by sampling random numbers

Simulators are probabilistic programs! (If we have the source code)

Inverting a simulator



Key idea:

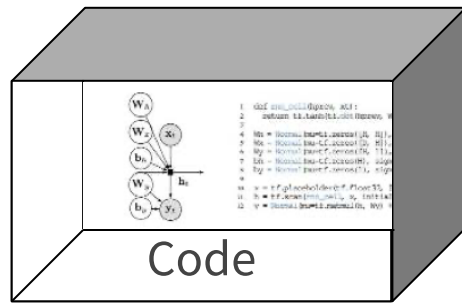
Many simulators are stochastic and they define probabilistic models by sampling random numbers

Simulators are probabilistic programs!

We “just” need an infrastructure to execute them probabilistically

Probabilistic execution

Parameters



Outputs (data)



Inferred parameters



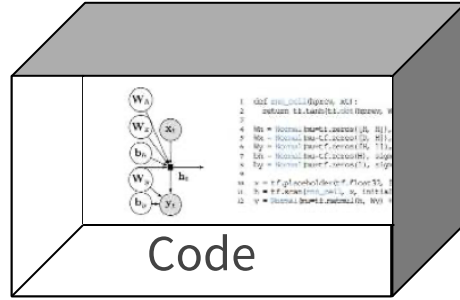
Simulator

Observed data

Probabilistic execution



Parameters



Outputs (data)

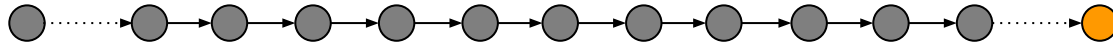
Inferred parameters



Simulator

Observed data

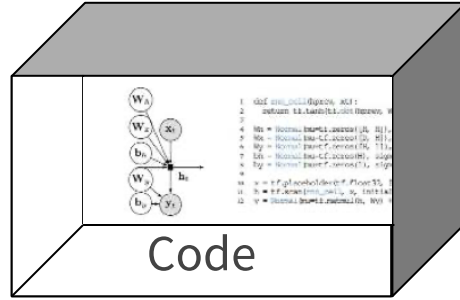
- **Run forward & catch all random choices** (“hijack” all calls to RNG)
- Record an **execution trace**: a record of all parameters, random choices, outputs



Probabilistic execution



Parameters



Outputs (data)

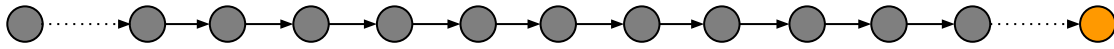
Inferred parameters



Simulator

Observed data

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- Record an **execution trace**: a record of all parameters, random choices, outputs

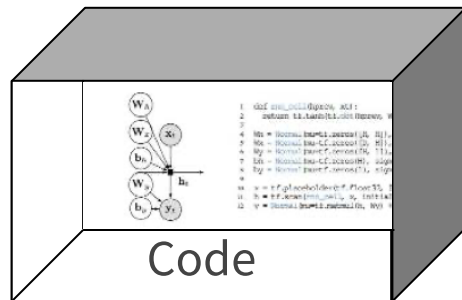


Probabilistic Programming eXecution protocol
C++, C#, Dart, Go, Java, JavaScript, Lua, Python, Rust and others

Probabilistic execution



Parameters



Outputs (data)

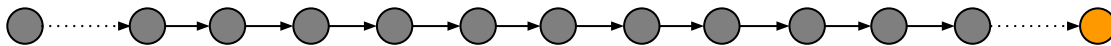
Inferred parameters



Simulator

Observed data

- **Run forward & catch all random choices** (“hijack” all calls to RNG)
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Probabilistic Programming eXecution protocol

C++, C#, Dart, Go, Java, JavaScript, Lua, Python, Rust and others

Inspired by the Open Neural Network Exchange

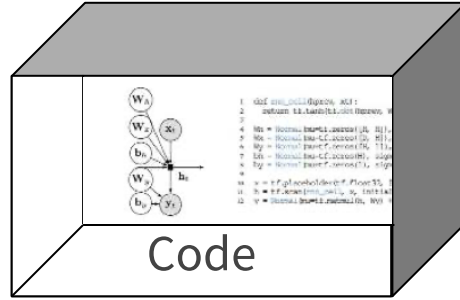


ONNX

Probabilistic execution



Parameters



Outputs (data)

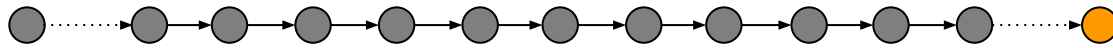
Inferred parameters



Simulator

Observed data

- **Run forward & catch all random choices** (“hijack” all calls to RNG)
- Record an **execution trace**: a record of all parameters, random choices, outputs



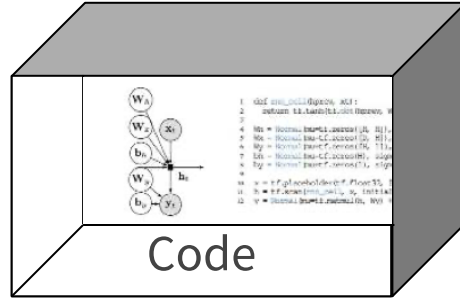
Uniquely label each choice at runtime by “addresses” of stack frames

```
[forward(xt: xarray_container<xt: uvector<double, std: allocator<double> >, (xt: layout_type)1, xt: svector<unsigned long, 4ul, std: allocator<unsigned long>, true>, xt: xtensor_expression_tag)+0x5f; SherpaGenerator:: Generate()+0x36; SHERPA:: Sherpa: GenerateOneEvent(bool)+0x2fa; SHERPA:: Event_Handler: GenerateEvent(SHERPA:: eventtype: code)+0x44d; SHERPA:: Event_Handler: GenerateHadronDecayEvent(SHERPA:: eventtype: code&)+0x45f; ATOOLS: Random: Get(bool, bool)+0x1d5; probprog_RNG: Get(bool, bool)+0xf9)_Uniform_1
```

Probabilistic execution



Parameters



Outputs (data)

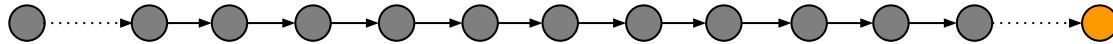
Inferred parameters



Simulator

Observed data

- **Run forward & catch all random choices** (“hijack” all calls to RNG)
- Record an **execution trace**: a record of all parameters, random choices, outputs

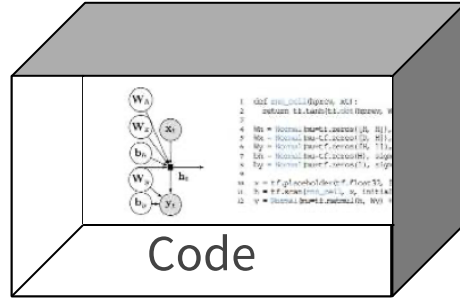


- Conditioning: compare **simulated output** and **observed data**
- **Approximate the distribution of parameters** that can produce (explain) observed data, using inference engines like Markov-chain Monte Carlo (MCMC)

Probabilistic execution



Parameters



Outputs (data)

Inferred parameters



Simulator

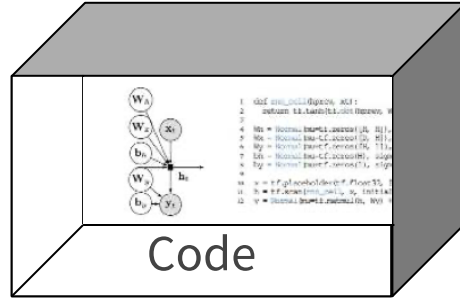
Observed data

- **Simulators = giant probabilistic models** so inference is hard and computationally costly
- Need to run simulator up to millions of times
- Simulator execution and MCMC inference are sequential
- MCMC has “burn-in period” and autocorrelation

Probabilistic execution



Parameters



Outputs (data)

Inferred parameters

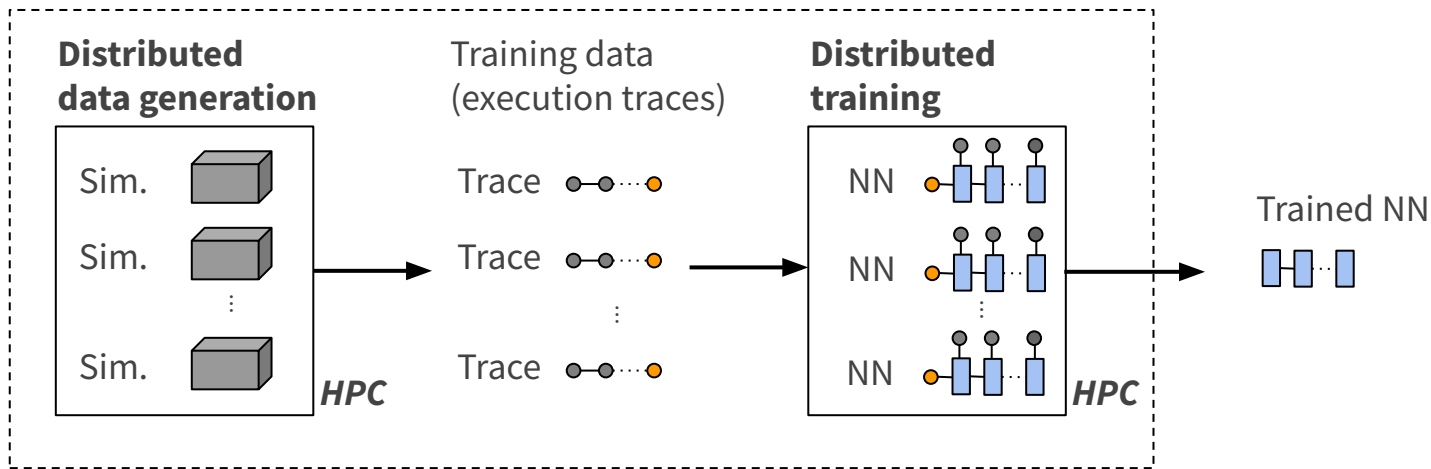


Simulator

Observed data

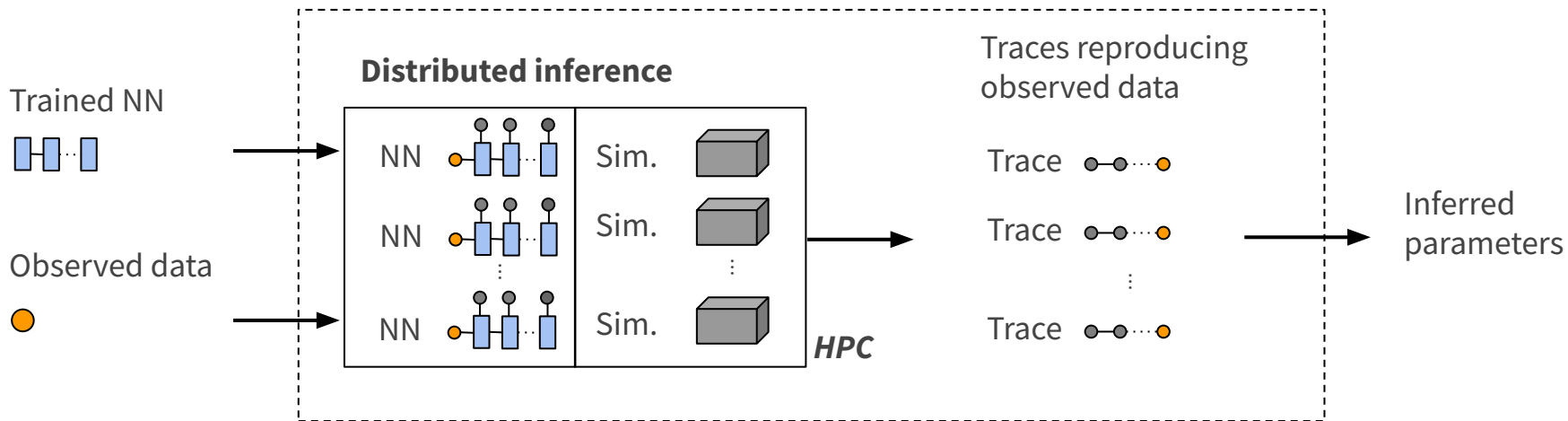
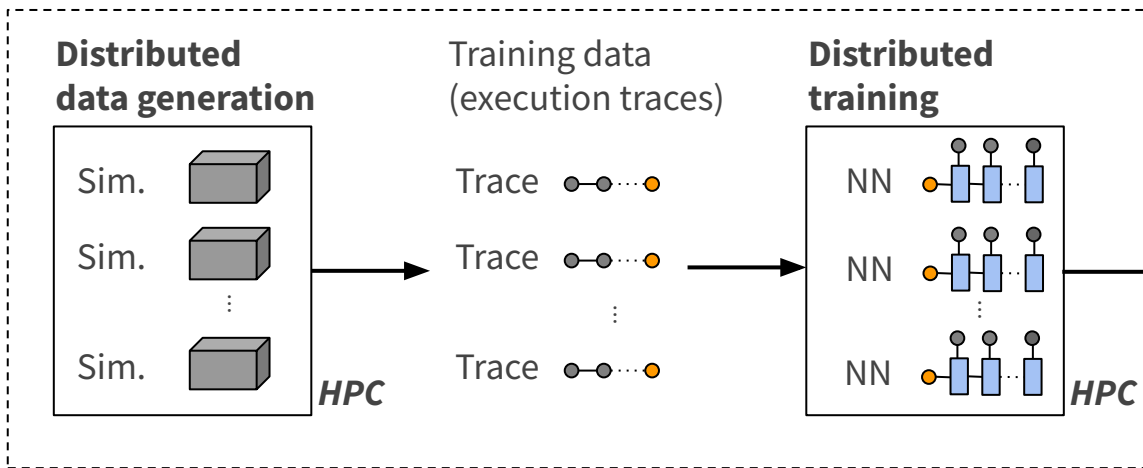
- **Simulators = giant probabilistic models** so inference is hard and computationally costly
 - Need to run simulator up to millions of times
 - Simulator execution and MCMC inference are sequential
 - MCMC has “burn-in period” and autocorrelation
- **But we can amortize the cost of inference using deep learning**

outputs
)
(MCMC)



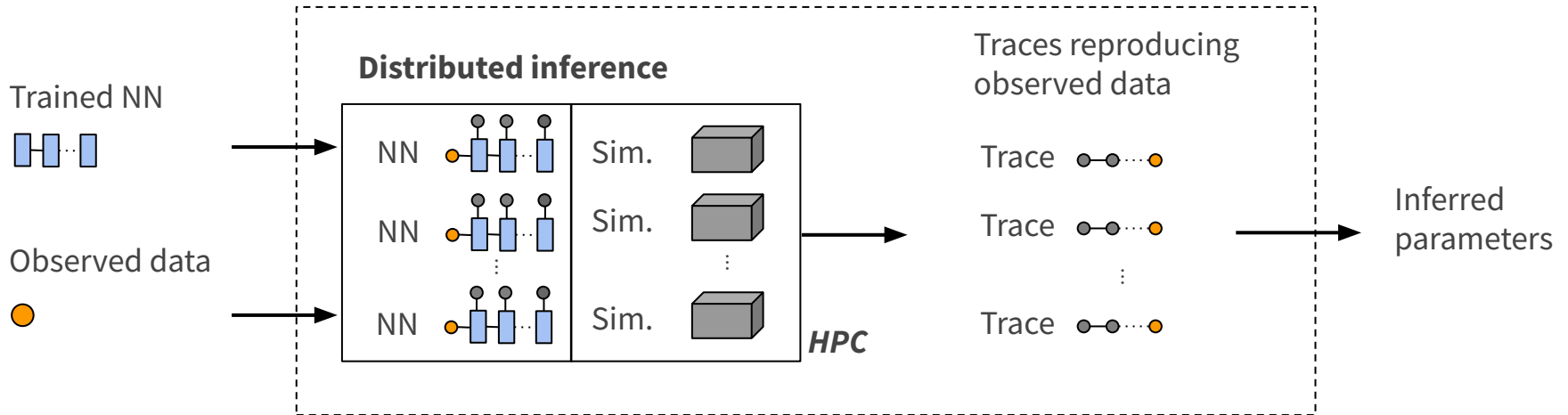
Training (recording simulator behavior)

- Deep recurrent neural network learns all random choices in simulator
- Dynamic NN: grows with each simulator execution
 - Layers get created as we learn more of the simulator
 - 100s of millions of parameters in particle physics simulation
- Costly, but amortized: we need to train only once per given model



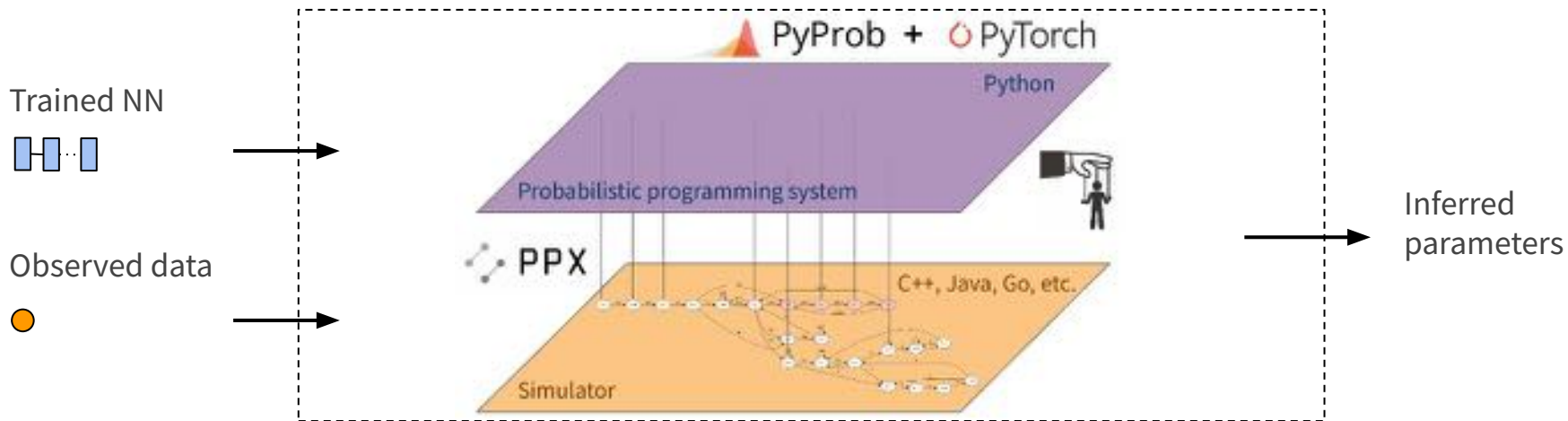
Inference (controlling simulator behavior)

- Trained deep NN makes intelligent choices given data observation
- Embarrassingly parallel distributed inference
- No burn-in period
- No autocorrelation: every sample is independent



Inference (controlling simulator behavior)

- Trained deep NN makes intelligent choices given data observation
- Embarrassingly parallel distributed inference
- No burn in period
- No autocorrelation: every sample is independent



A hand-drawn sketch of a normal distribution curve on a coordinate system. The vertical axis is labeled $f(x)$ and the horizontal axis is labeled x . The curve is bell-shaped and centered at a point labeled μ . A vertical line is drawn at a point labeled $\mu + \sigma$, and the area under the curve to the left of this line is shaded. Below the graph, the formula for the normal distribution function is written: $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp$.

Code infrastructure

Probabilistic programming with simulators



<https://github.com/pyprob/pyprob>

- PPL for simulators and HPC, based on PyTorch

Distributed training and inference, efficient support for multi-TB distribution files, optimized memory usage, parallel trace processing



<https://github.com/pyprob/ppx>

- Probabilistic Programming eXecution protocol

Simulator and inference engine executed in separate processes and machines across network

Google flatbuffers to support C++, C#, Dart, Go, Java, JavaScript, Lua, Python, Rust

Probabilistic programming analogue to Open Neural Network Exchange (ONNX) for deep learning



Containerized workflow for HPC

Probabilistic programming eXecution protocol

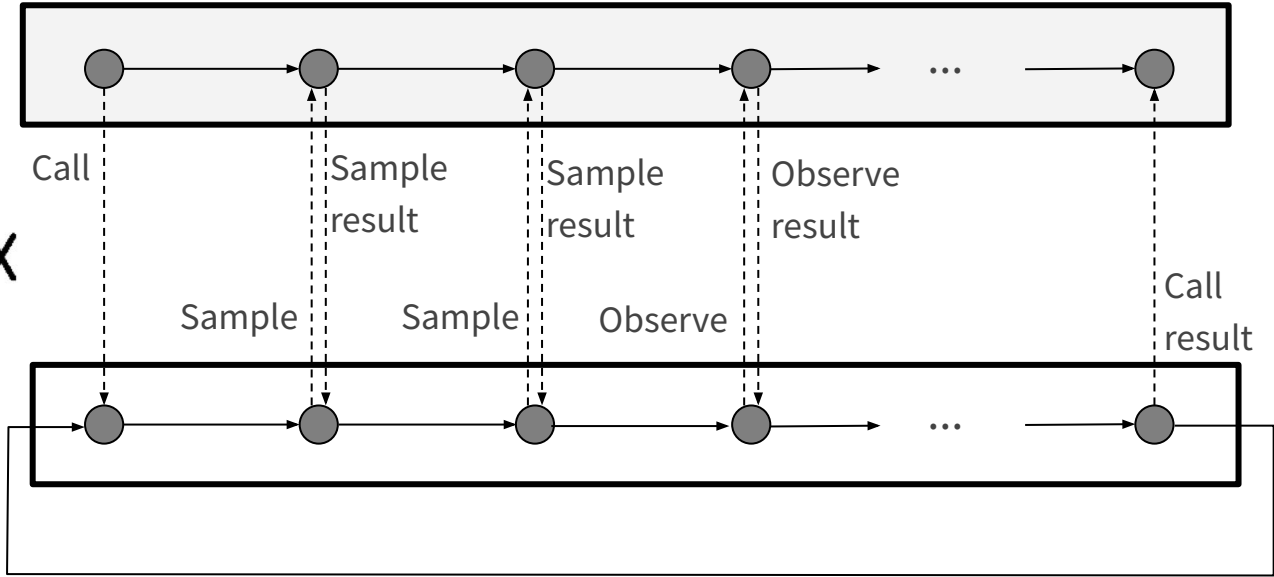
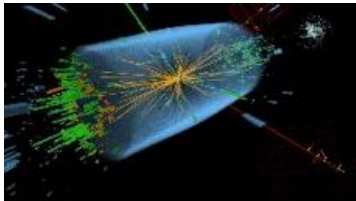


Trace recording and control

PPL  PyProb
 PyTorch

 PPX

Simulator
(SHERPA, GEANT)

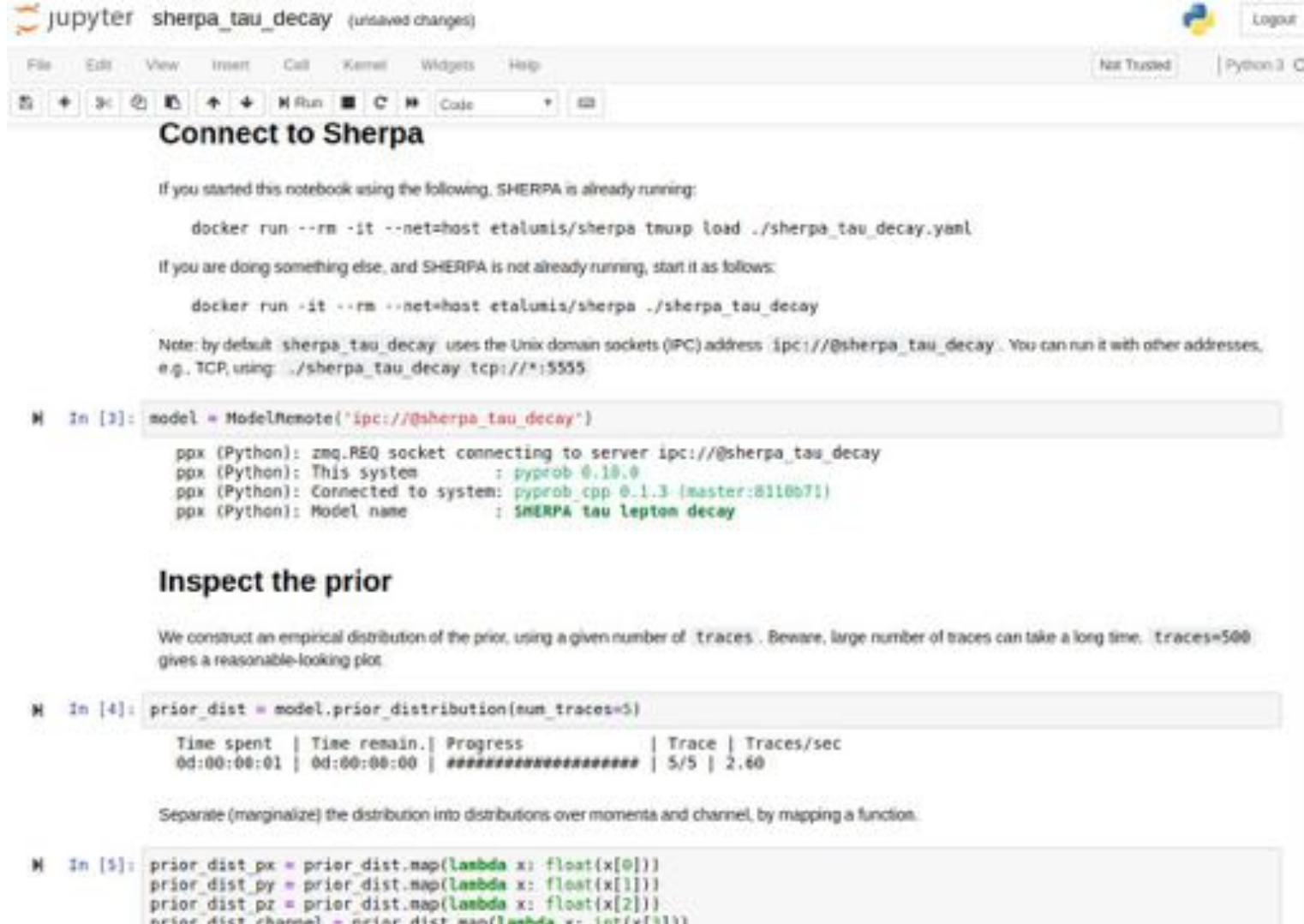


Simulator execution

PPX in C++

```
1 #include <pyprob_cpp.h>
2
3 // Gaussian with unknown mean
4 // http://www.robots.ox.ac.uk/~fwood/assets/pdf/Wood-AISTATS-2014.pdf
5
6 xt::xarray<double> forward()
7 {
8     auto prior_mean = 1;
9     auto prior_stddev = std::sqrt(5);
10    auto likelihood_stddev = std::sqrt(2);
11
12    auto prior = pyprob_cpp::distributions::Normal(prior_mean, prior_stddev);
13    auto mu = pyprob_cpp::sample(prior);
14
15    auto likelihood = pyprob_cpp::distributions::Normal(mu, likelihood_stddev);
16    pyprob_cpp::observe(likelihood, "obs0");
17    pyprob_cpp::observe(likelihood, "obs1");
18
19    return mu;
20 }
21
22
23 int main(int argc, char *argv[])
24 {
25     auto serverAddress = (argc > 1) ? argv[1] : "tcp://*:5555";
26     pyprob_cpp::Model model = pyprob_cpp::Model(forward, "Gaussian with unknown mean C++");
27     model.startServer(serverAddress);
28     return 0;
29 }
```

PPX in Python



The screenshot shows a Jupyter Notebook interface with the following content:

Connect to Sherpa

If you started this notebook using the following, SHERPA is already running:

```
docker run --rm -it --net=host etalumis/sherpa tnxp load ./sherpa_tau_decay.yanl
```

If you are doing something else, and SHERPA is not already running, start it as follows:

```
docker run -it --rm --net=host etalumis/sherpa ./sherpa_tau_decay
```

Note: by default `sherpa_tau_decay` uses the Unix domain sockets (IPC) address `ipc://@sherpa_tau_decay`. You can run it with other addresses, e.g. TCP, using `./sherpa_tau_decay tcp://*:5555`.

```
In [3]: model = ModelFromnote('ipc://@sherpa_tau_decay')
```

ppx (Python): zmq_REQ socket connecting to server ipc://@sherpa_tau_decay
ppx (Python): This system : pyprob 0.10.0
ppx (Python): Connected to system: pyprob_cpp 0.1.3 (master:8110b71)
ppx (Python): Model name : SHERPA tau leptom decay

Inspect the prior

We construct an empirical distribution of the prior, using a given number of `traces`. Beware, large number of traces can take a long time. `traces=500` gives a reasonable-looking plot.

```
In [4]: prior_dist = model.prior_distribution(num_traces=5)
```

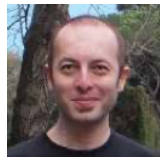
Time spent	Time remain.	Progress	Trace	Traces/sec
0d:00:00:01	0d:00:00:00	#####	5/5	2.60

Separate (marginalize) the distribution into distributions over momenta and channel, by mapping a function.

```
In [5]: prior_dist_px = prior_dist.map(lambda x: float(x[0]))
prior_dist_py = prior_dist.map(lambda x: float(x[1]))
prior_dist_pz = prior_dist.map(lambda x: float(x[2]))
prior_dist_channel = prior_dist.map(lambda x: int(x[3]))
```



etalumis → | ← simulate



Atılım Güneş
Baydin



Lukas
Heinrich



Wahid
Bhimji



Lei
Shao



Saeid
Naderiparizi



Andreas
Munk



Jialin
Liu



Bradley
Gram-Hansen



Gilles
Louppe



Lawrence
Meadows



Phil
Torr



Victor
Lee



Prabhat



Kyle
Cranmer



Frank
Wood



“etalumis” simulate



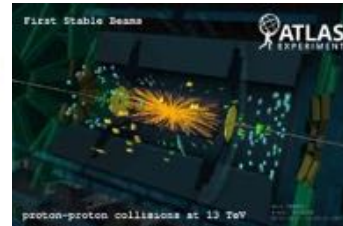
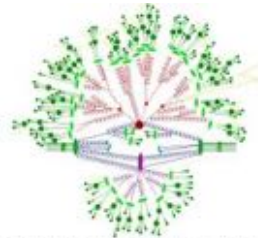
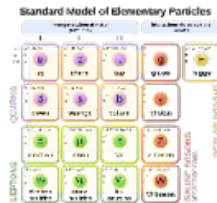
- At CERN, vast quantities of experimental data (petabytes / day) produced and compared to detailed simulations via histograms of summary statistics
 - billions of CPU hours, labor intensive, sometimes ad-hoc
- Aim: replace with automated probabilistic inference, grounded in a statistical framework

Physics



→ Real data

Simulation



→ Simulated data

Inputs



Latents

$$p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x})p(\mathbf{x})$$

Likelihood Prior

\mathbf{y} 
Simulated data
(detector response)



Inputs



Posterior $p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y})$



observe($p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{y}_{obs}$)

Generative model / simulator (e.g., Sherpa, Geant)

Real world system (e.g., Large Hadron Collider)



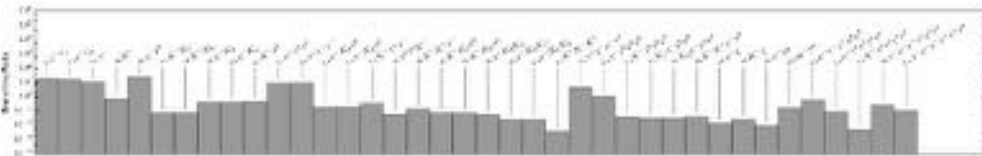
\mathbf{y}_{obs} 
Observed data
(detector response)



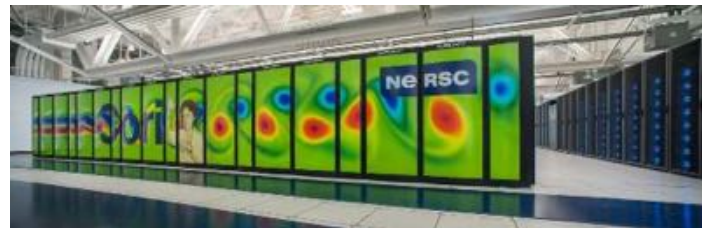
“etalumis” simulate



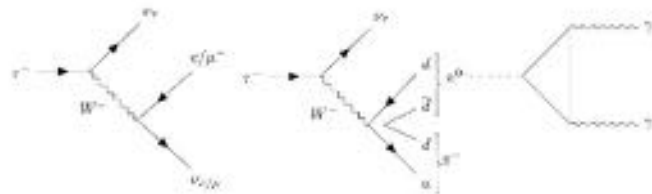
- Supercomputing-scale probabilistic programming
~ 25,000 latent variables; 32,768 CPU cores
- Sherpa: a state-of-the-art **simulator of the Standard Model** of particle physics, ~1M lines of C++
- Analyzing **tau lepton decay**
(a key ingredient in describing the Higgs boson)
- Largest-scale PyTorch MPI (128k minibatch size)
- **First tractable Bayesian inference for LHC physics**



Best Paper Finalist at SC19 (supercomputing)

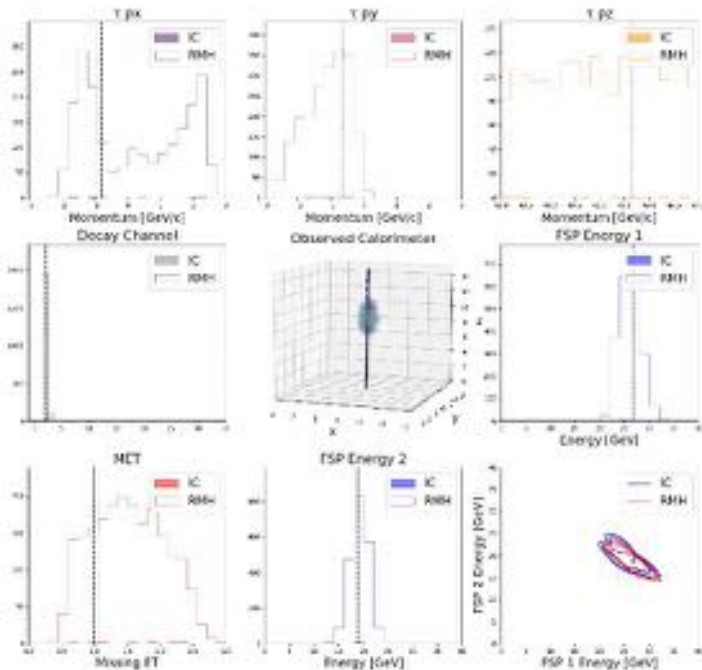


Cori supercomputer, Lawrence Berkeley Lab
2,388 Haswell nodes (32 cores per node)
9,688 KNL nodes (68 cores per node)

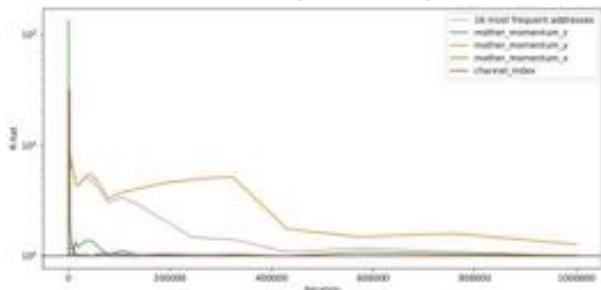


Inference results

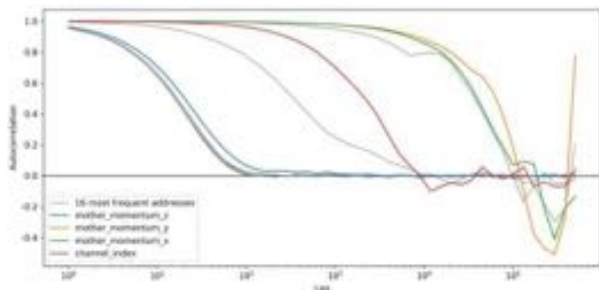
- Achieved MCMC (RMH) “ground truth”
- **First tractable Bayesian inference for LHC physics**
 - Posterior over full latent space of the Standard Model (>25k latent variables)
 - Autocorrelation typically around 10^5 steps
 - MCMC: 115 hours
- Amortized inference (IC) closely matches MCMC (RMH)
 - No autocorrelation, embarrassingly parallel
 - IC: 30 minutes



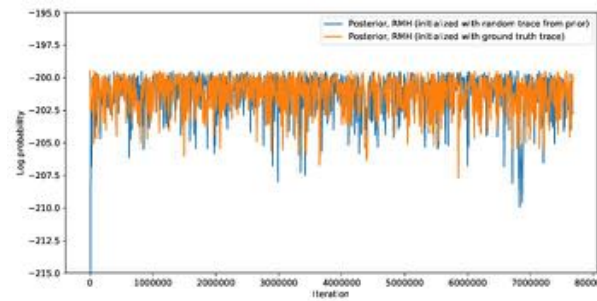
Gelman-Rubin convergence diagnostic

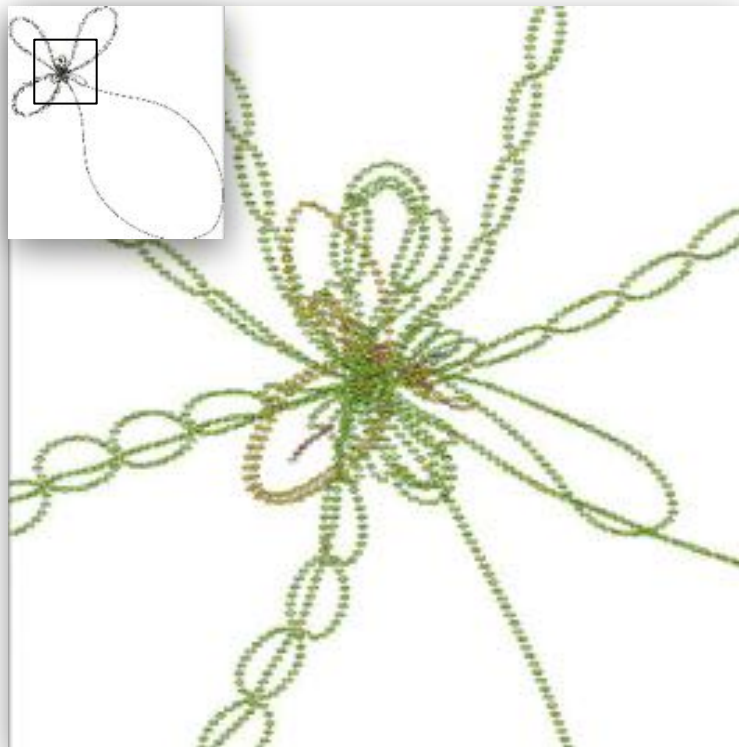
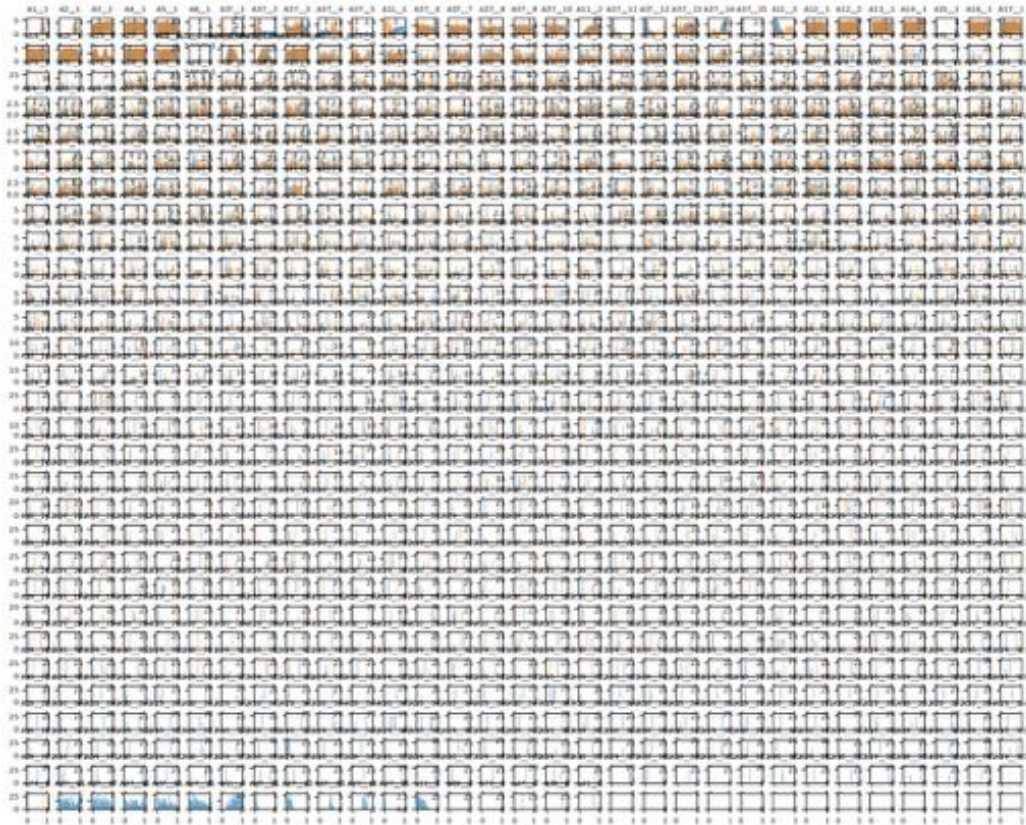


Autocorrelation



Trace log-probability

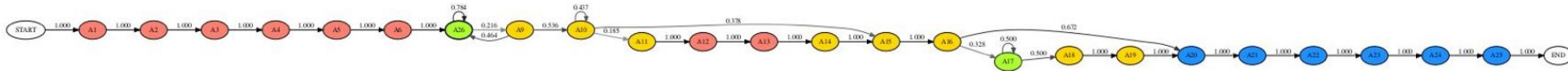




Etalumis gives access to all latent variables: allows answering *any* model-based question

Interpretability

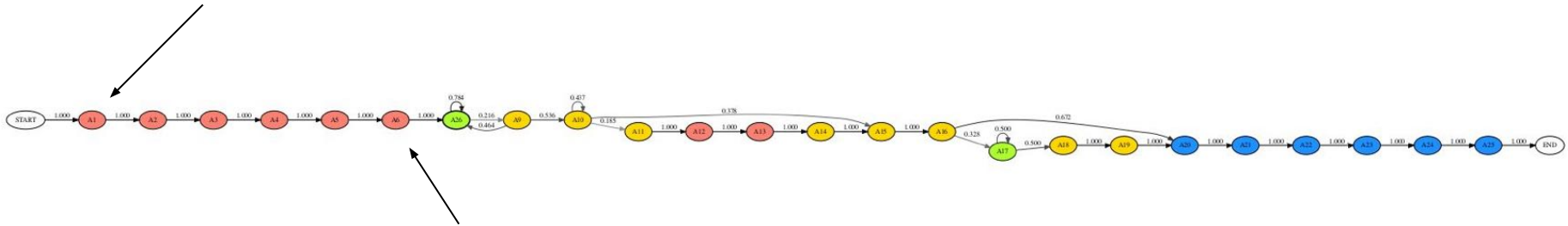
Latent probabilistic structure of **10** most frequent trace types



Interpretability

Latent probabilistic structure of **10** most frequent trace types

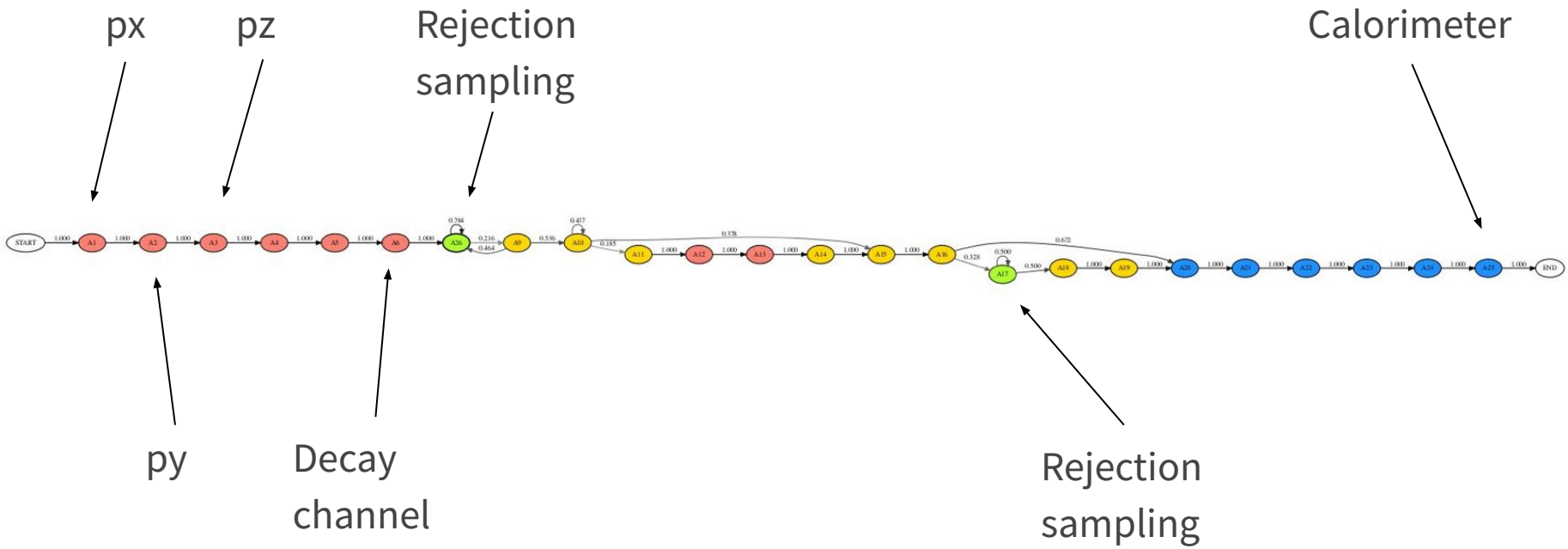
```
[forward(xt:: xarray_container<xt:: uvector<double, std:: allocator<double> >, (xt:: layout_type)1, xt:: svector<unsigned long, 4ul, std:: allocator<unsigned long>, true>, xt:: xtensor_expression_tag>)+0x5f; SherpaGenerator:: Generate()+0x36; SHERPA:: Sherpa: GenerateOneEvent(bool)+0x2fa; SHERPA:: Event_Handler:: GenerateEvent(SHERPA:: eventtype:: code)+0x44d; SHERPA:: Event_Handler:: GenerateHadronDecayEvent(SHERPA:: eventtype:: code&)+0x45f; ATOOLS:: Random:: Get(bool, bool)+0x1d5; probprog_RNG:: Get(bool, bool)+0xf9]_Uniform_1
```



```
[forward(xt:: xarray_container<xt:: uvector<double, std:: allocator<double> >, (xt:: layout_type)1, xt:: svector<unsigned long, 4ul, std:: allocator<unsigned long>, true>, xt:: xtensor_expression_tag>)+0x5f; SherpaGenerator:: Generate()+0x36; SHERPA:: Sherpa: GenerateOneEvent(bool)+0x2fa; SHERPA:: Event_Handler:: GenerateEvent(SHERPA:: eventtype:: code)+0x44d; SHERPA:: Event_Handler:: GenerateHadronDecayEvent(SHERPA:: eventtype:: code&, double&)+0x1d2; SHERPA:: Hadron_Decays:: Treat(ATOOLS:: Blob_List*, double&)+0x975; SHERPA:: Decay_Handler_Base:: TreatInitialBlob(ATOOLS:: Blob*, METOOLS:: Amplitude2_Tensor*, std:: vector<ATOOLS:: Particle*, std:: allocator<ATOOLS:: Particle*> > const&)+0x1ab1; SHERPA:: Hadron_Decay_Handler:: CreateDecayBlob(ATOOLS:: Particle*)+0x4cd; PHASIC:: Decay_Table:: Select() const+0x9d7; ATOOLS:: Random:: GetCategorical(std:: vector<double, std:: allocator<double> > const&, bool, bool)+0x1a5; probprog_RNG:: GetCategorical(std:: vector<double, std:: allocator<double> > const&, bool, bool)+0x111]_Categorical(length_categories:38)_1
```

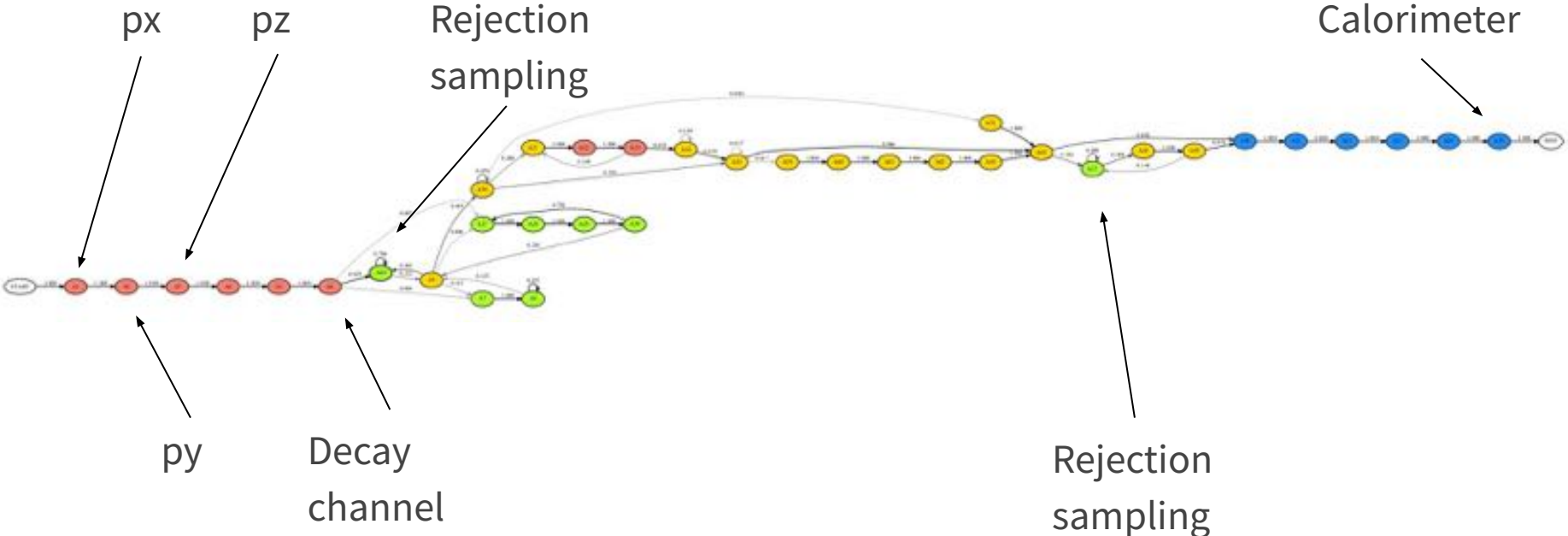
Interpretability

Latent probabilistic structure of **10** most frequent trace types



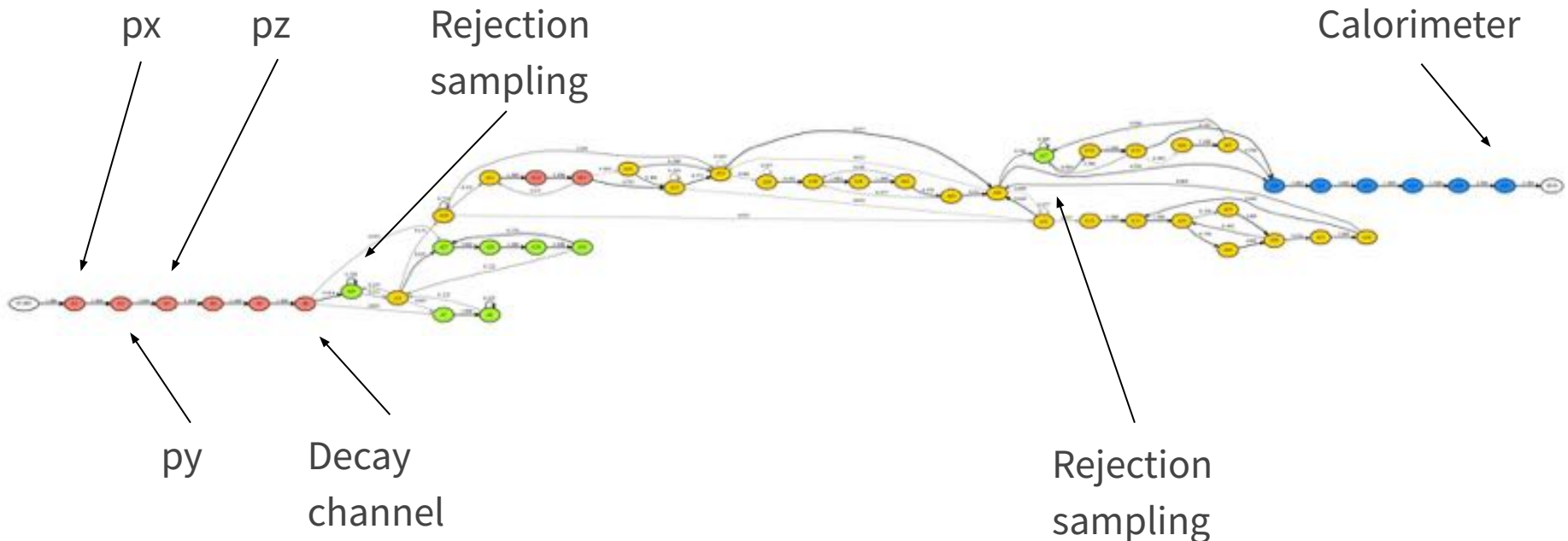
Interpretability

Latent probabilistic structure of **25** most frequent trace types



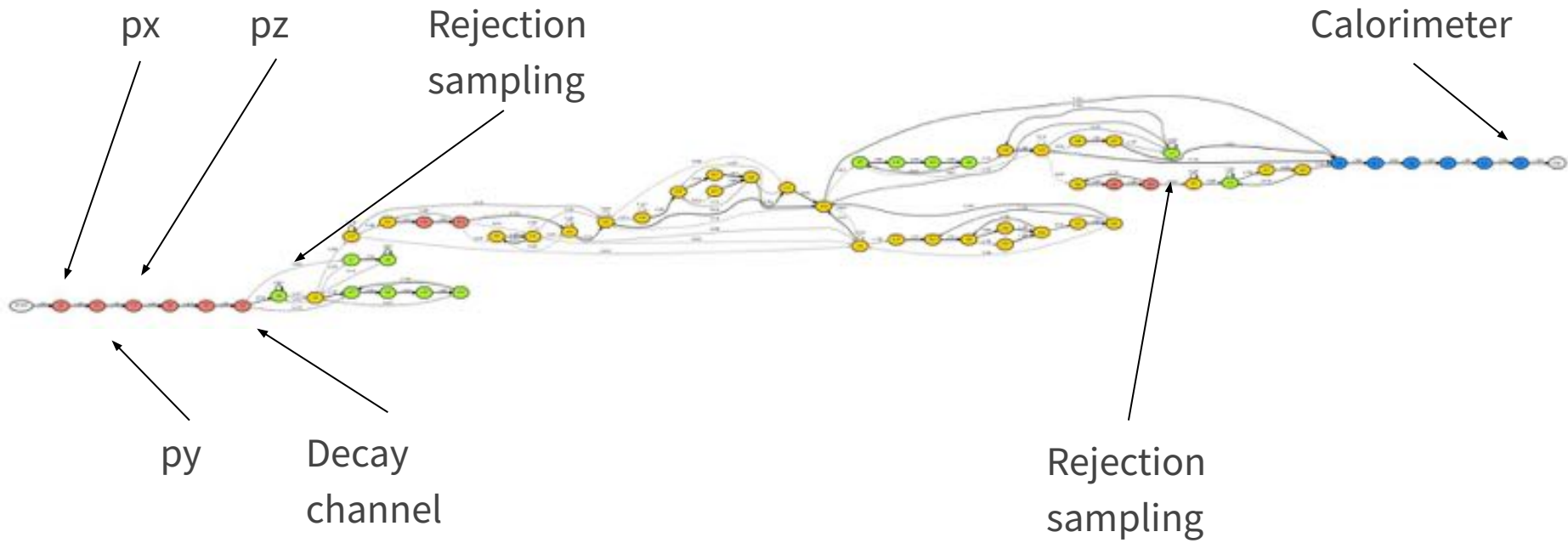
Interpretability

Latent probabilistic structure of **100** most frequent trace types



Interpretability

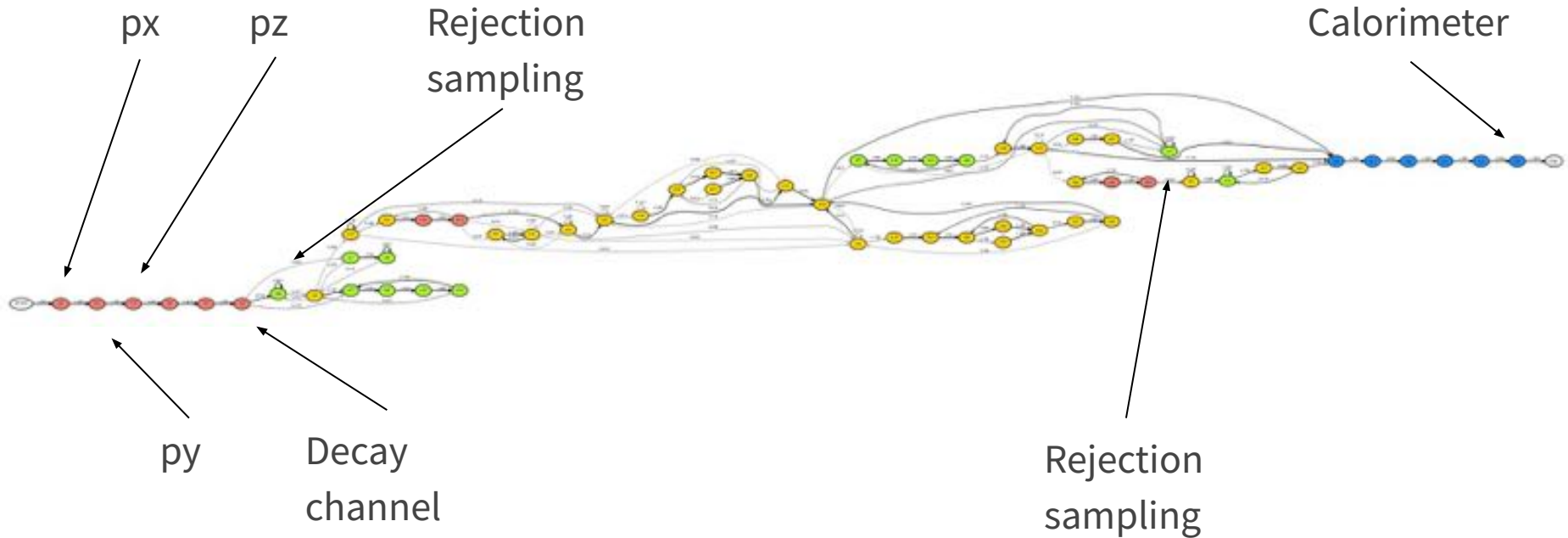
Latent probabilistic structure of **250** most frequent trace types



Probabilistic surrogate models

Probabilistic surrogate networks

Can we **replace the simulator** entirely with a **surrogate model with the same address structure**?



Munk, Zwartsenberg, Ścibior, **Baydin**, Stewart, Fernlund, Poursartip, Wood. 2022. "Probabilistic Surrogate Networks for Simulators with Unbounded Randomness" In 38th Conference on Uncertainty in Artificial Intelligence **UAI 2022**

Probabilistic surrogate networks

Demonstrated with a simulation of composite material heating cycles

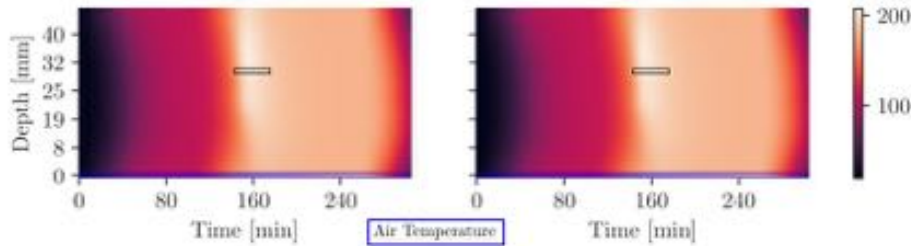
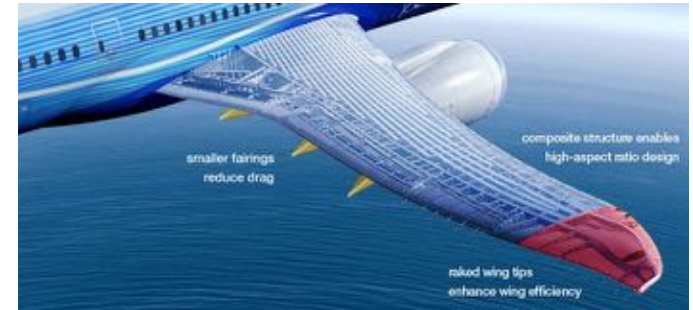


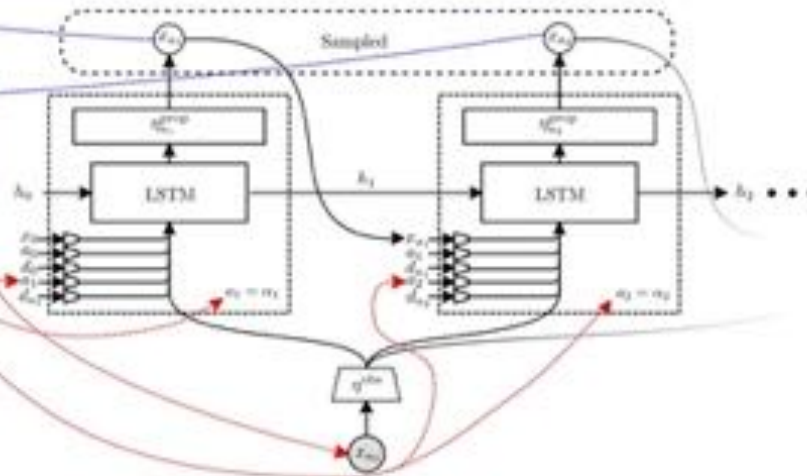
Figure 1: Illustration of a process simulation of composite materials, which we denote $\mathcal{F}_{\text{RAVEN}}$. Each subfigure shows a temperature profile measured in degrees Celsius as a function of time along the x axis and depth along the y -axis. (Left) shows the actual simulated heating process. (Right) shows the same process but originating from our *probabilistic surrogate network* trained to match the original simulator. Noticeably, the process in (right) is **26.8 times faster** than the process in (left). Later we perform inference in this process, where we seek to infer the expected temperature in the time window [155, 165] min at depth 30 mm represented by the black box conditioned on measuring the temperature at the bottom surface and air temperature represented by the blue boxes.



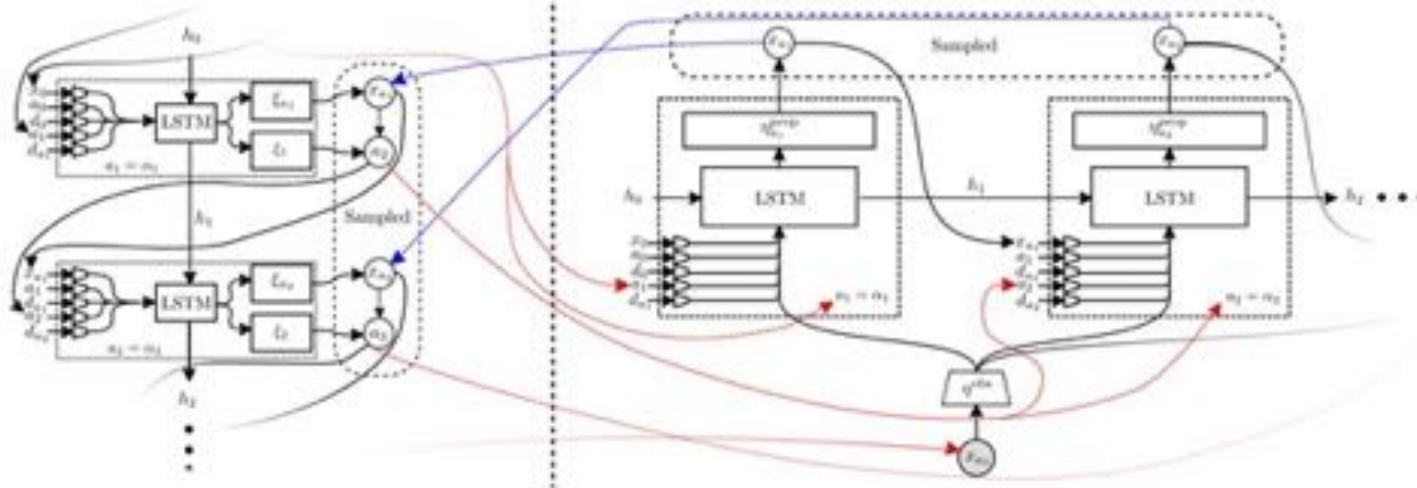
Generative Model

```
def gaussian_mixture(x):  
    d1 = Categorical(prob=[1/2, 1/2])  
    c = sample(dist=d1, address=α1)  
  
    if c==0:  
        d2 = Normal(mean=1, std=1)  
        m = sample(dist=d2, address=α2)  
    else c==1:  
        d2 = Normal(mean=-1, std=1)  
        m = sample(dist=d2, address=α2)  
  
    d3 = Normal(mean=m, std=1)  
    observe(x, likelihood=d3, address=α4)  
  
    return c
```

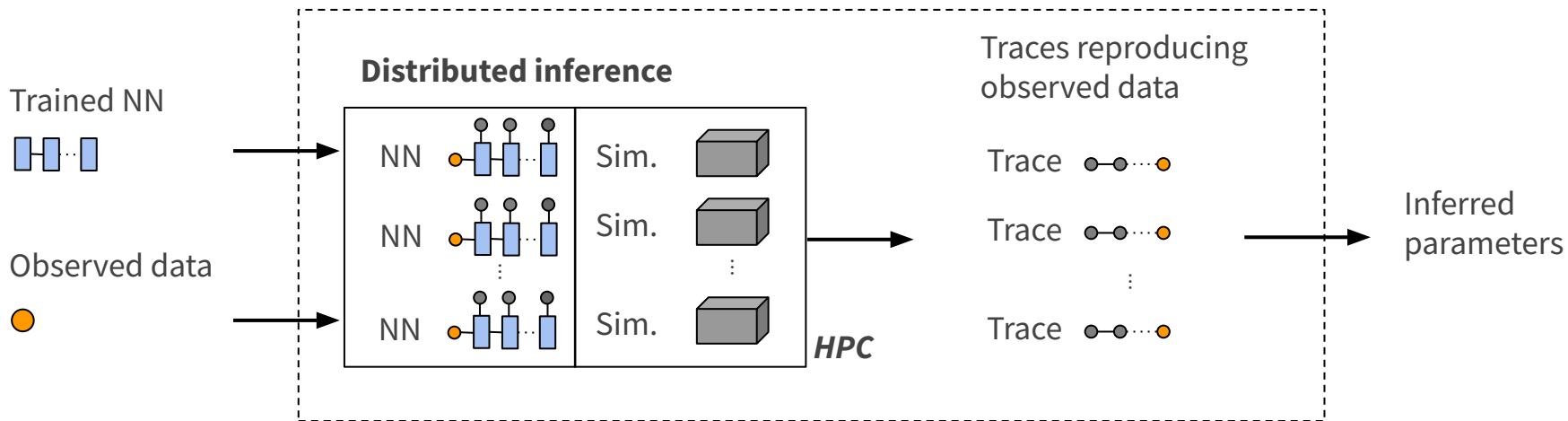
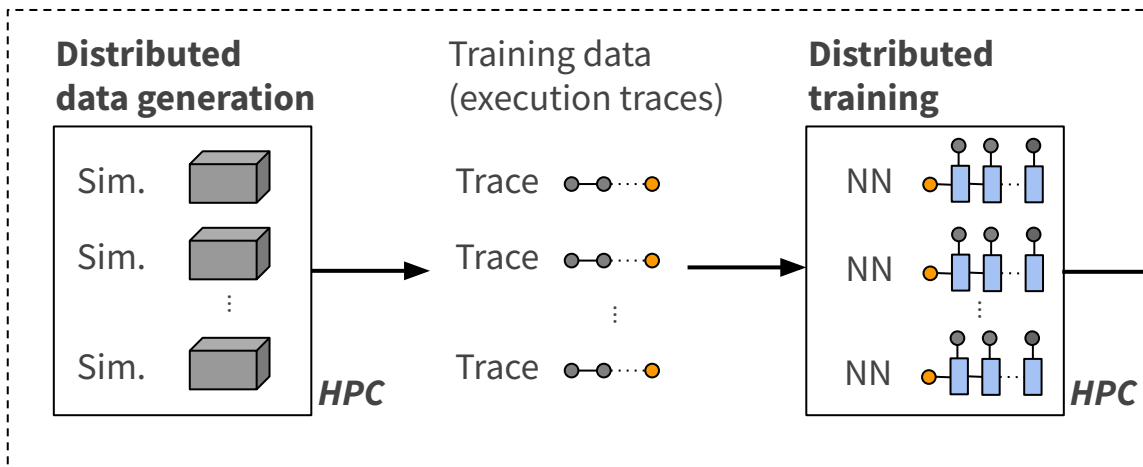
Inference Network

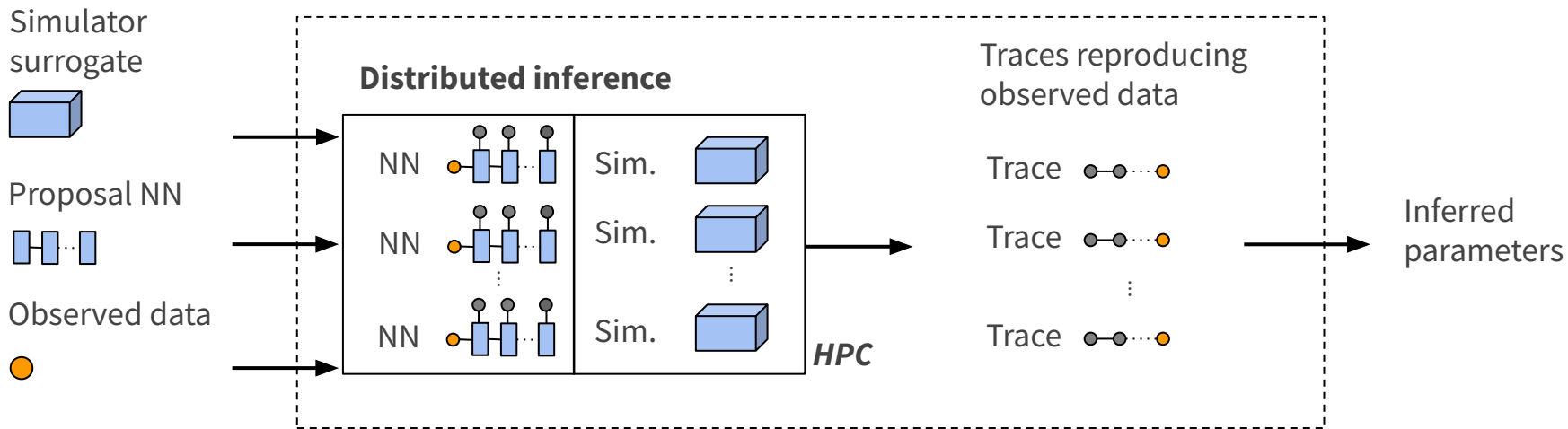
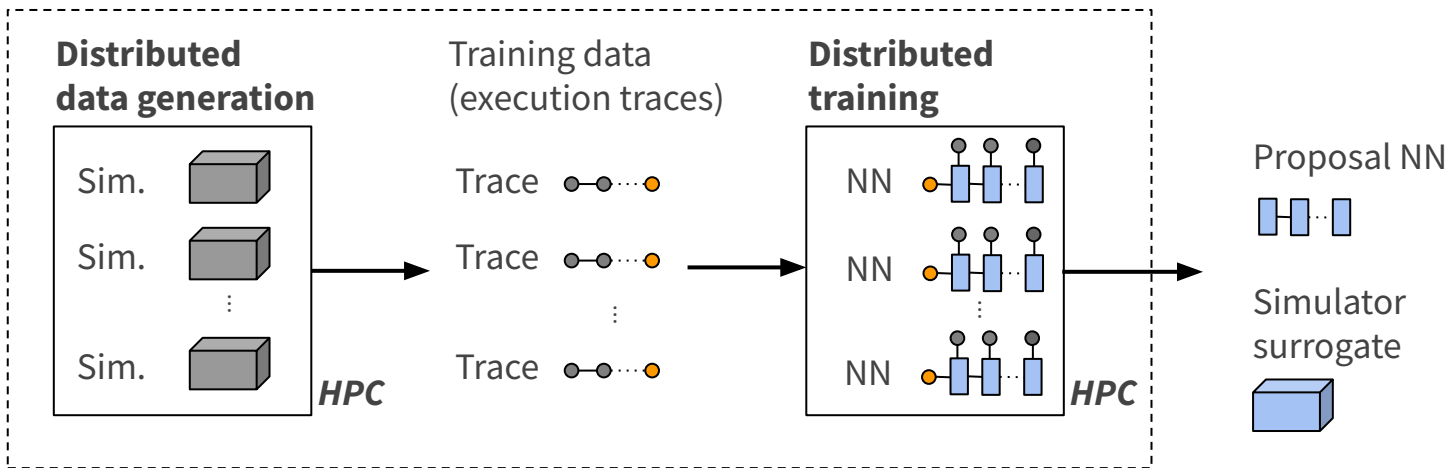


Probabilistic Surrogate Network



Munk, Zwartsenberg, Ścibior, Baydin, Stewart, Fernlund, Poursartip, Wood. 2022. "Probabilistic Surrogate Networks for Simulators with Unbounded Randomness" In 38th Conference on Uncertainty in Artificial Intelligence UAI 2022





Other simulators as probabilistic programs

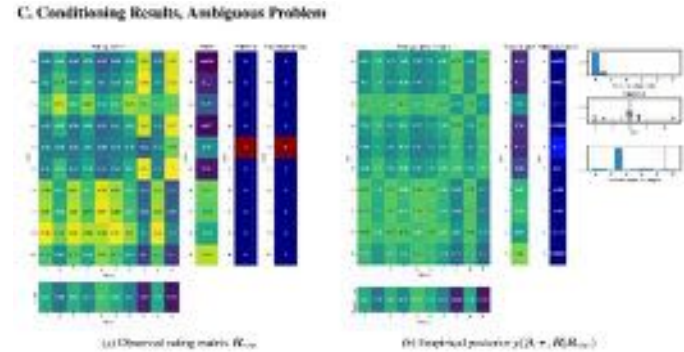


Spacecraft collision avoidance

Collaboration with **European Space Agency (ESA)**

Acciarini, Pinto, Metz, Boufelja, Kaczmarek, Merz, Martinez-Heras, Letizia, Bridges, **Baydin**. 2021. “**Kessler: a Machine Learning Library for Space Collision Avoidance.**” In 8th European Conference on Space Debris.

Pinto, Acciarini, Metz, Boufelja, Kaczmarek, Merz, Martinez-Heras, Letizia, Bridges, **Baydin**. 2020. “**Towards Automated Satellite Conjunction Management with Bayesian Deep Learning.**” In AI for Earth Sciences Workshop at NeurIPS 2020, Vancouver, Canada



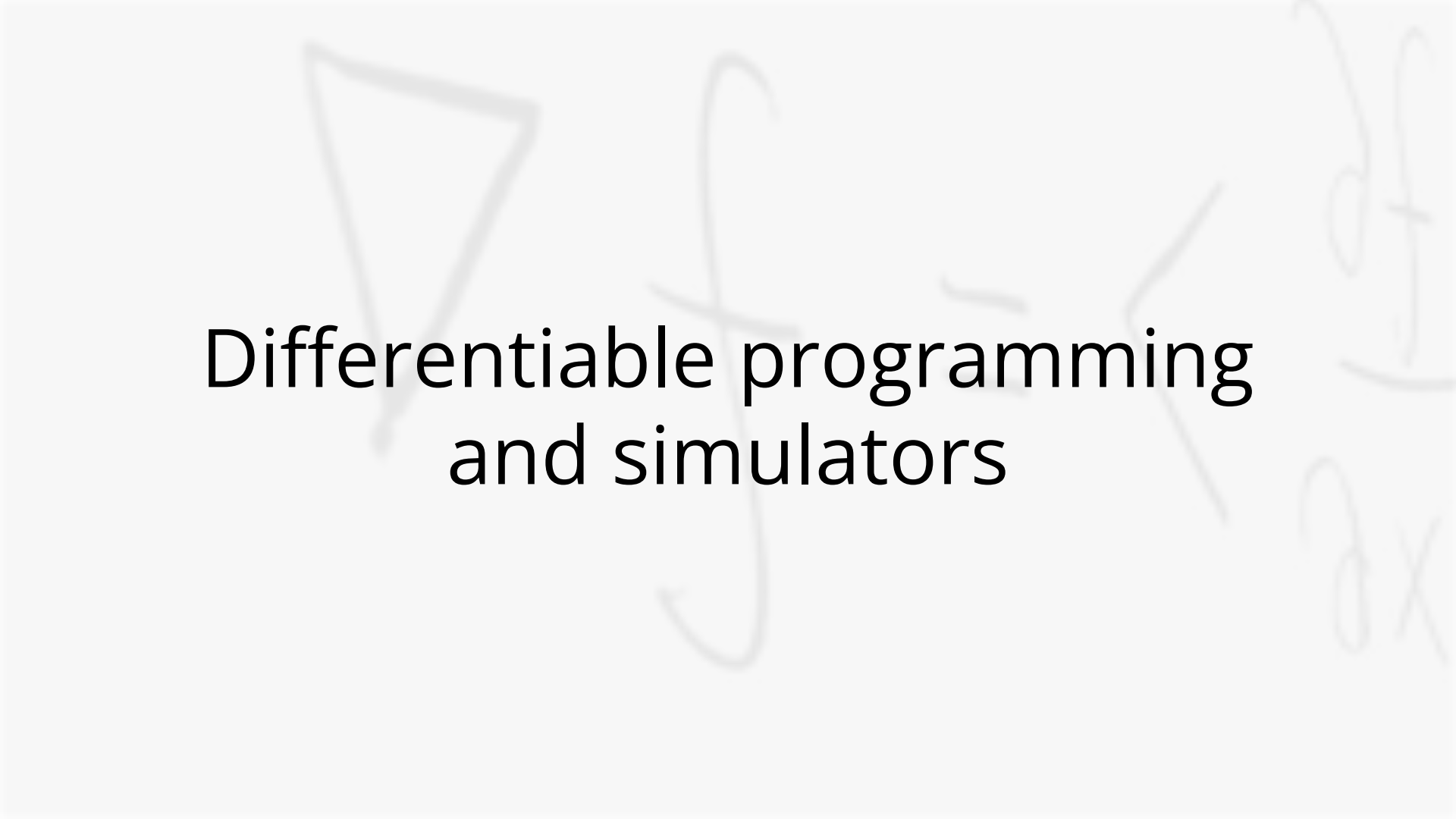
Social media models and simulation of misinformation dynamics

Collaboration with NYU Center for Social Media and Politics, Oxford Internet Institute

Gambardella, State, Khan, Tsourides, Torr, **Baydin**. 2021. “**Detecting and Quantifying Malicious Activity with Simulation-Based Inference**” In ICM Workshop on Socially Responsible Machine Learning.

Mehta, State, Bonneau, Nagler, Torr, **Baydin**. 2022 “**Estimating the Impact of Coordinated Inauthentic Behavior on Content Recommendations in Social Networks**” ICML workshop on AI for Agent Based Modeling





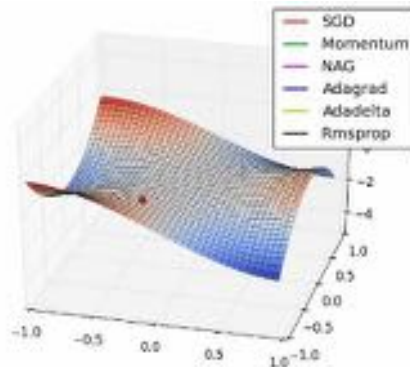
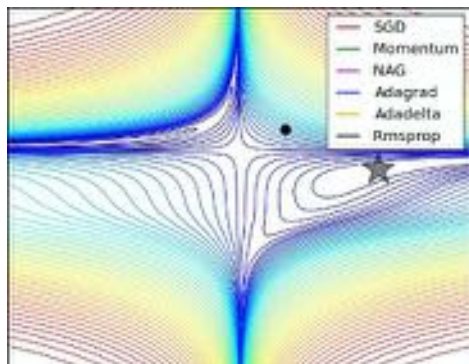
Differentiable programming and simulators

What is differentiable programming?

Deep learning is behind many recent advances in machine learning

= nonlinear **differentiable functions (programs)**

whose parameters are tuned by **gradient-based optimization**



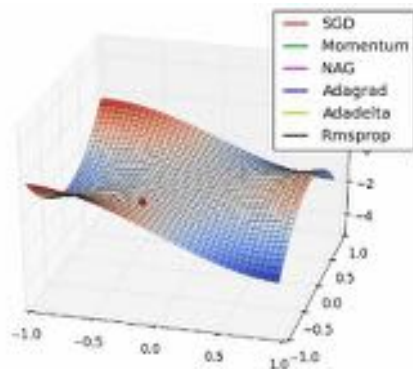
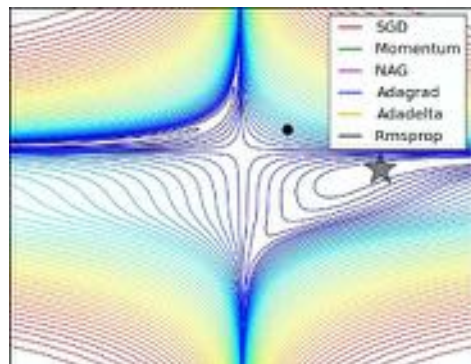
(Ruder, 2017) <http://ruder.io/optimizing-gradient-descent/>

What is differentiable programming?

Deep learning is behind many recent advances in machine learning
= nonlinear **differentiable functions (programs)**

whose parameters are tuned by **gradient-based optimization**

Derivatives come from running the code via **automatic differentiation**
(mainly backpropagation / reverse mode)



(Ruder, 2017) <http://ruder.io/optimizing-gradient-descent/>

$$f(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

↓ **automatic
differentiation**

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}) = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1}, \dots, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n} \right)$$

Differentiable programming

Differentiable programming is a generalization of deep learning

- Write programs composed of **differentiable and parameterized building blocks** executed via **automatic differentiation**
- **Optimize parameters** in order to perform a specified task, based on data



Yann LeCun

January 5 at 10:13pm · 🌐 (2018)

OK, Deep Learning has outlived its usefulness as a buzz-phrase.
Deep Learning est mort. Vive Differentiable Programming!

Yeah, Differentiable Programming is little more than a rebranding of the modern collection Deep Learning techniques, the same way Deep Learning was a rebranding of the modern incarnations of neural nets with more than two layers.

Andrej Karpathy (2017)

“Software 2.0”

<https://karpathy.medium.com/software-2-0-a64152b37c35>

Differentiable programming

Differentiable programming is a generalization of deep learning

- Write programs composed of **differentiable and parameterized building blocks** executed via **automatic differentiation**
- **Optimize parameters** in order to perform a specified task, based on data

(Neural networks are just a simple class of differentiable functions)



Yann LeCun

January 5 at 10:13pm · 🌐 (2018)

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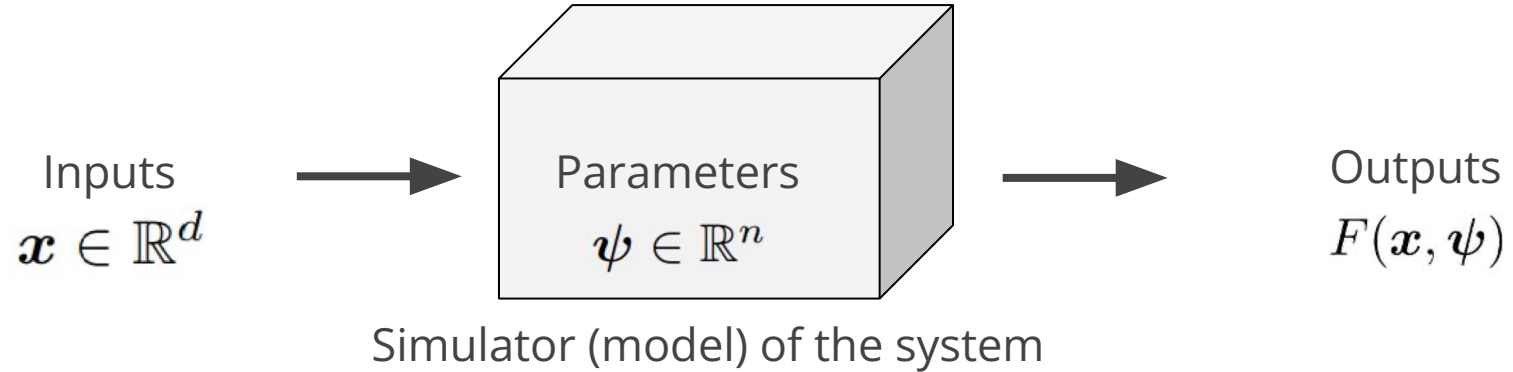
<https://karpathy.medium.com/software-2-0-a64152b37c35>

Simulators and differentiability

- Simulator code is **not differentiable**
 - Use surrogates (differentiable approximation learned from data)

- Simulator code is **differentiable**
(but has not been used in a differentiable way so far)
 - Use automatic differentiation if feasible

Simulators and differentiability

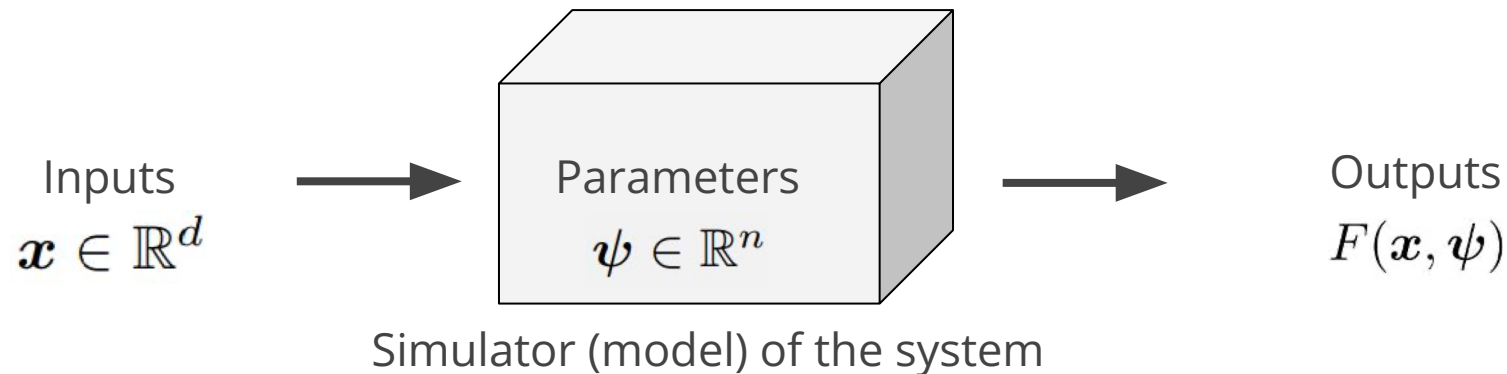


$$\psi^* = \arg \min_{\psi} \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \mathcal{R}(F(\mathbf{x}, \psi))$$

↓ ↙ ↘

Optimal Objective Simulator
parameters

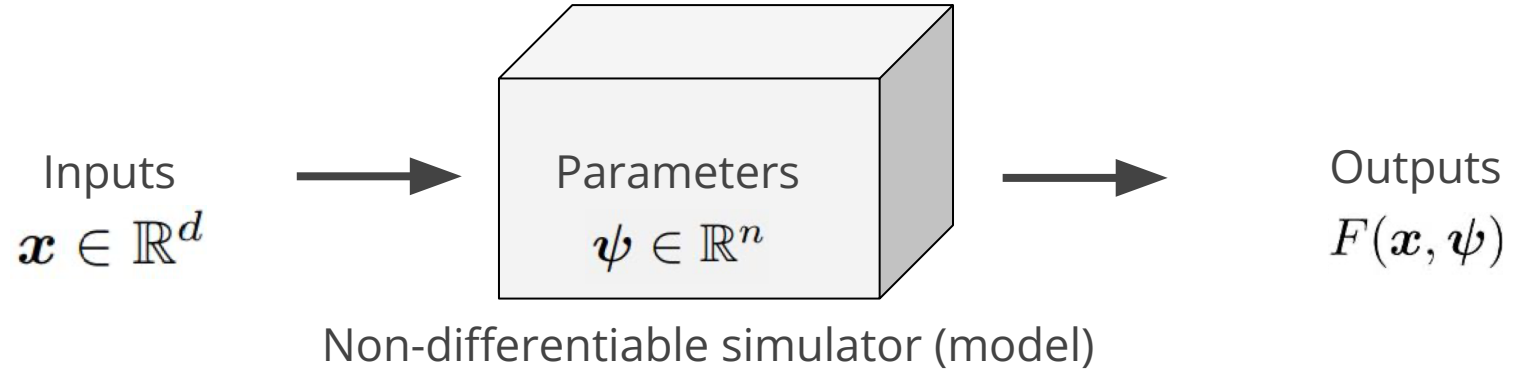
Simulators and differentiability




$$\boldsymbol{\psi}^* = \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\psi}} \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \mathcal{R}(F(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\psi}))$$

Can be efficiently found by gradient-based optimization if $\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\psi}} \mathcal{R}$ is available

Non-differentiable simulator



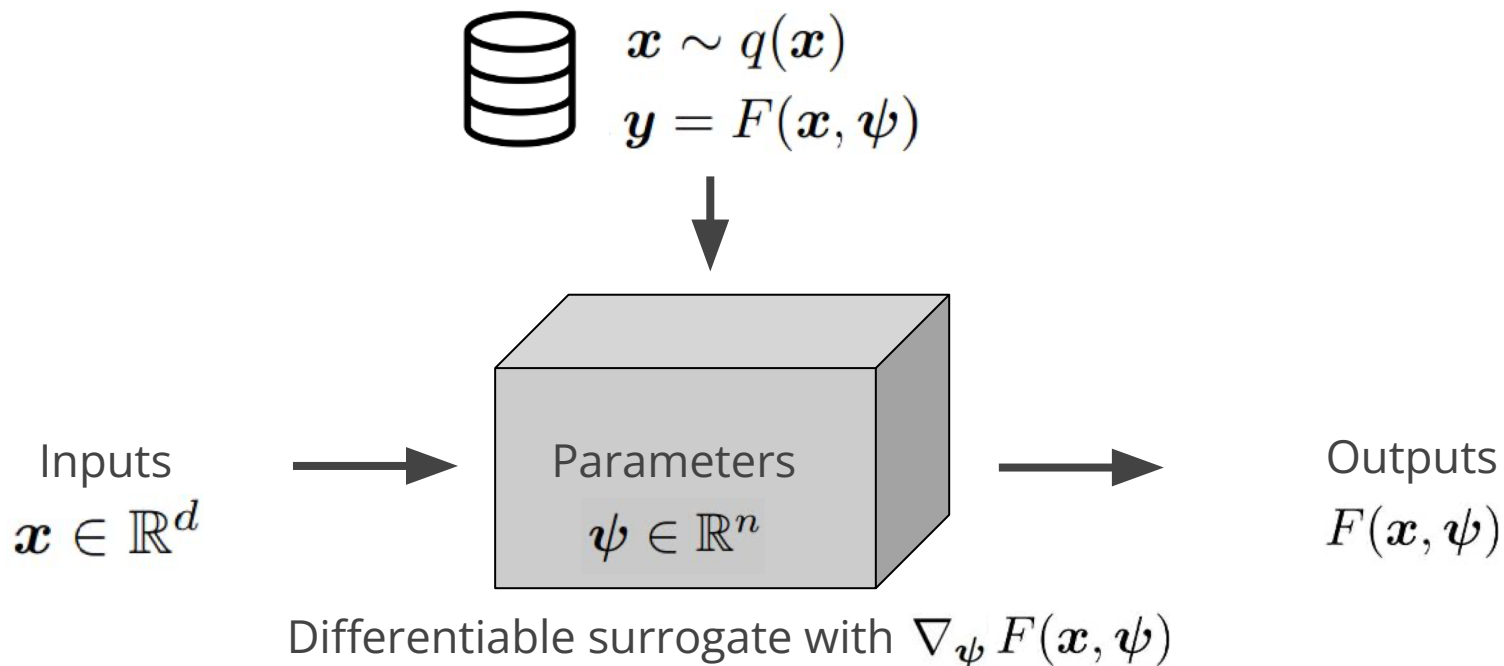
- Run simulator many times
- Generate a (large) dataset of input - output pairs capturing simulator's behavior


$$\mathbf{x} \sim q(\mathbf{x})$$
$$\mathbf{y} = F(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\psi})$$

A database icon consisting of three horizontal cylinders is positioned to the left of two equations. The first equation is $\mathbf{x} \sim q(\mathbf{x})$ and the second is $\mathbf{y} = F(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\psi})$.

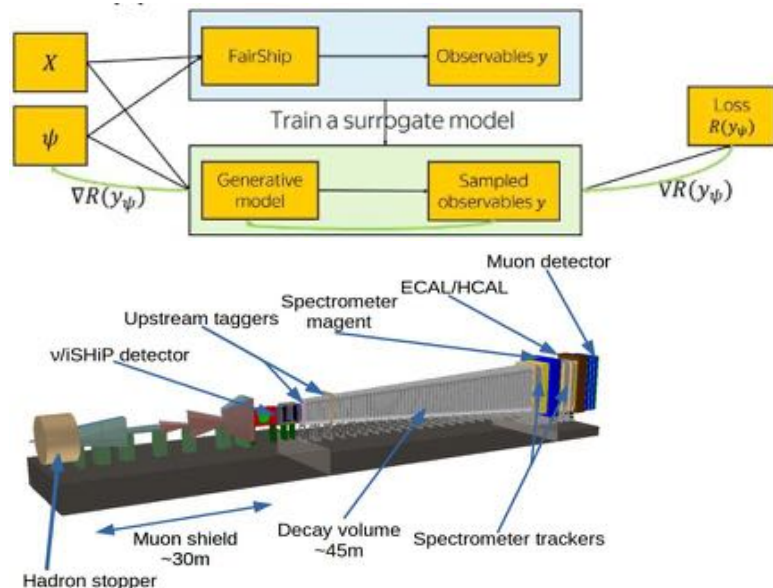
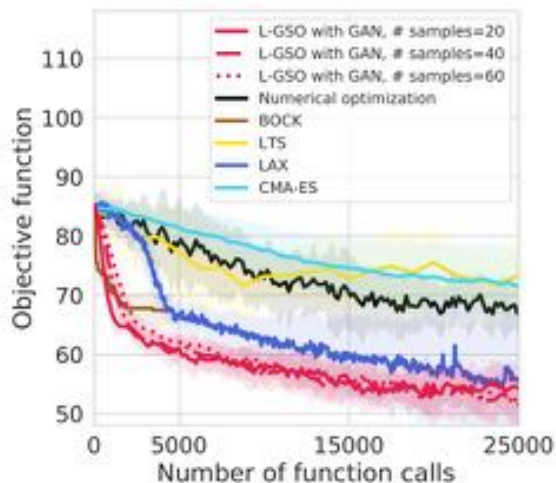
Non-differentiable simulator

- Use the dataset to **learn a surrogate** (differentiable approximation) of the simulator (e.g., a deep generative model)



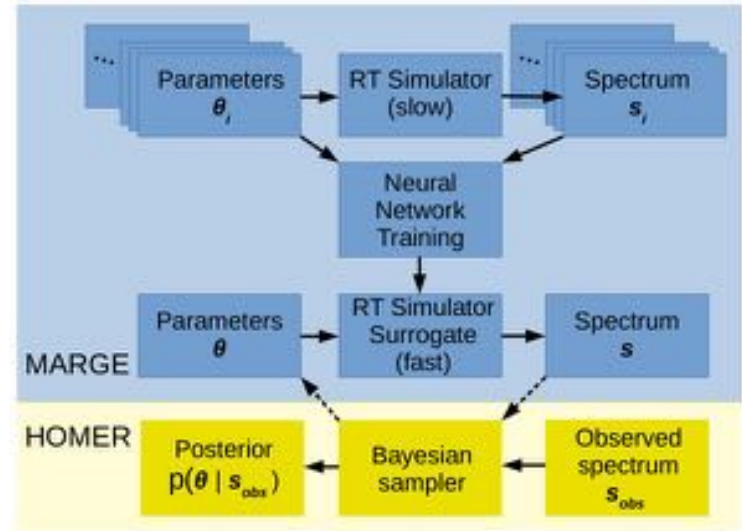
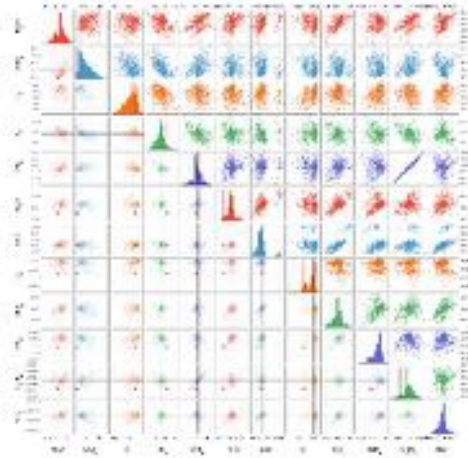
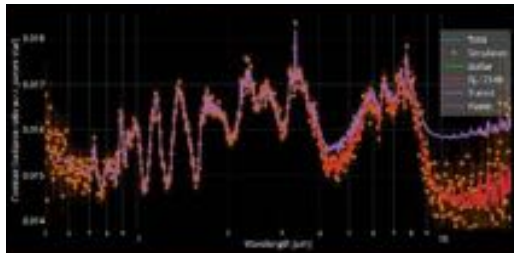
Example: local generative surrogates

- Deep generative surrogates (GAN) trained in successive local neighborhoods
- Optimize SHiP muon shield (GEANT4, FairRoot), minimize number of recorded muons by varying magnet geometry



Example: exoplanet radiative transfer

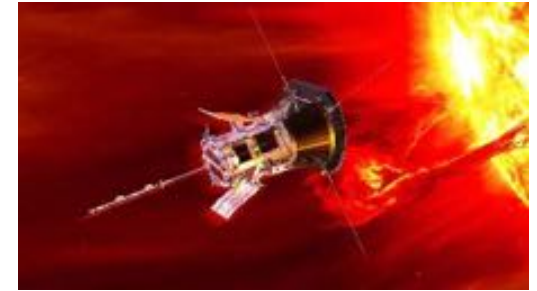
- **Posterior distributions of gas concentrations** in exoplanet atmospheres, conditioned on observed spectra, using radiative transfer simulators
- Surrogates allow up to 180x faster inference



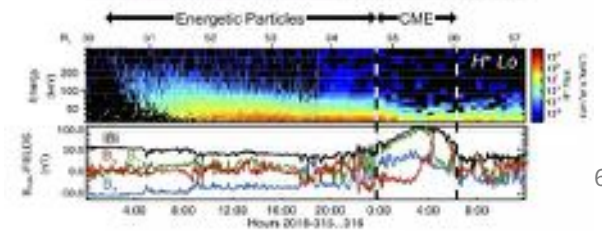
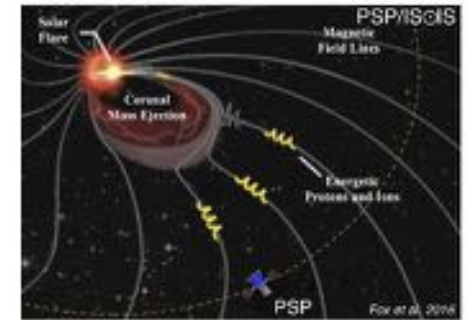
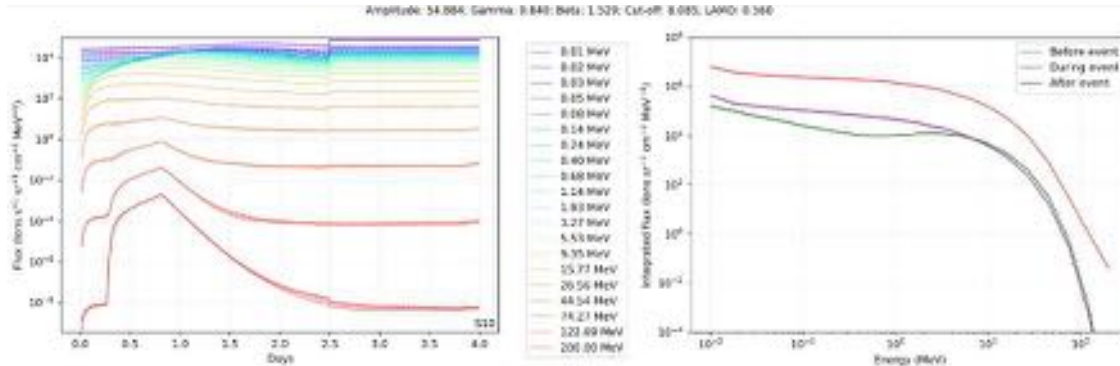
Example: solar energetic particles



- Solar energetic particles (SEPs) pose serious threats to humans in deep space exploration and to the scientific instruments onboard spacecraft
- Develop an EPREM simulator surrogate (~ billion times faster) enabling posterior inference of seed particle populations **conditioned on real space weather events**

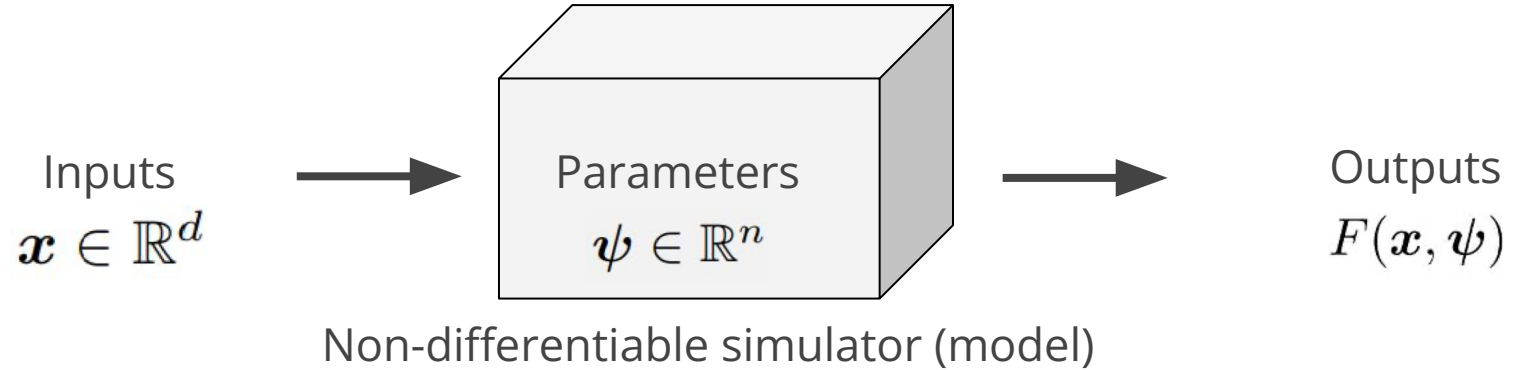


NASA Parker Solar Probe

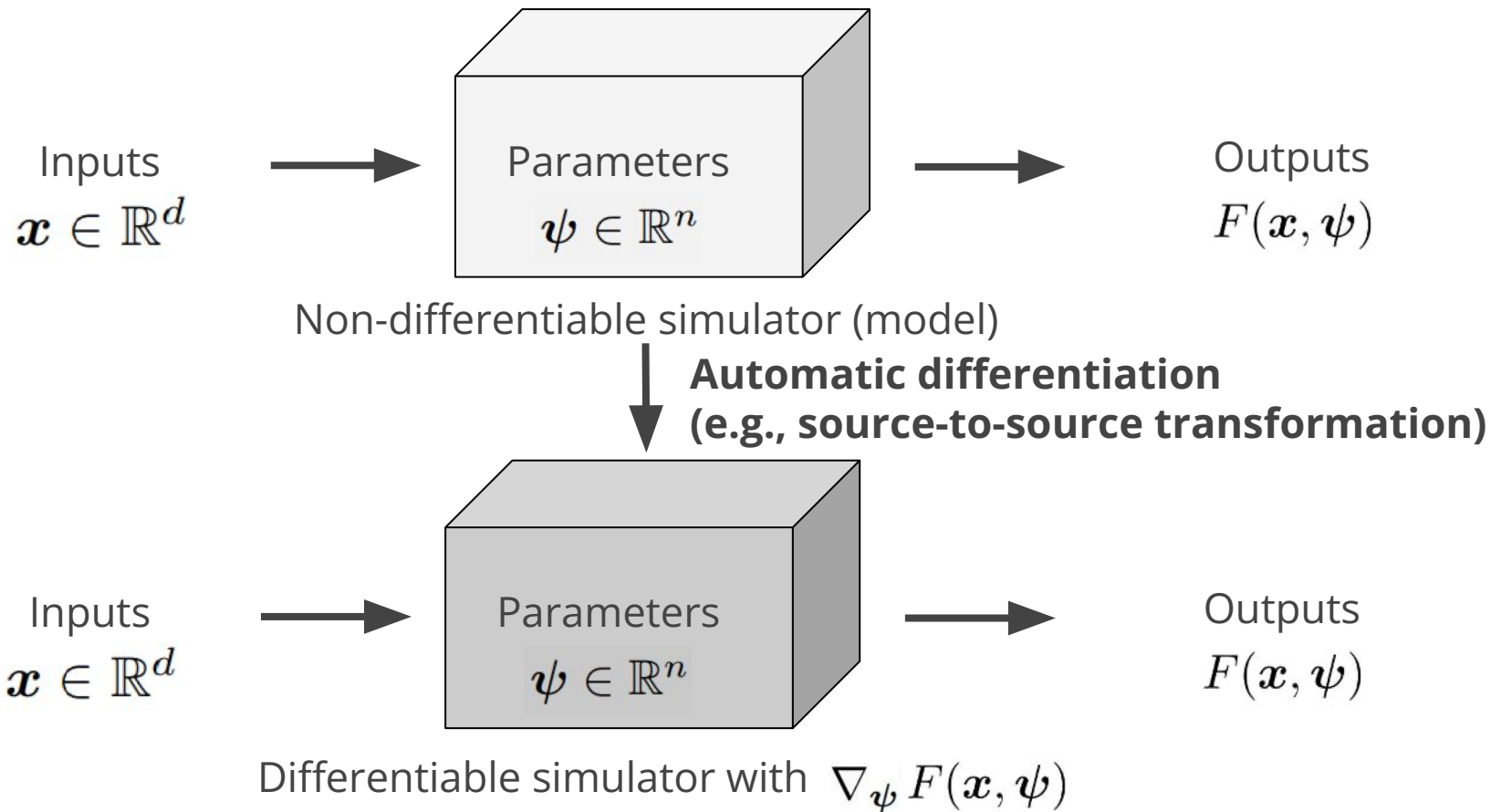


Poduval, **Baydin**, Schwadron. 2021. "Studying Solar Energetic Particles and Their Seed Population Using Surrogate Models" In Machine Learning for Space Sciences Workshop, 43rd Committee on Space Research (COSPAR) Scientific Assembly, Sydney, Australia.

Differentiable simulator



Differentiable simulator



Differentiable simulator

- Use automatic differentiation tools to make the simulator directly differentiable
- Used in design optimization by the AD community for **many decades**

17 Aerofoil Optimisation via AD of a Multigrid Cell-Vertex Euler Flow Solver

Shaun A. Forth and Trevor P. Evans

ABSTRACT We report preliminary results in the use of ADIFOR 2.0 to determine aerodynamic sensitivities of a 2-D airfoil with respect to geometrical variables. Meshes are produced with a hyperbolic interpolation technique. The flow field is calculated using the cell-vertex method of Hall, which incorporates local time-stepping, mesh sequencing and multigrid. We present results and timings using both Finite Differences (FD) and Automatic Differentiation (AD). We investigate the effect of starting the perturbed calculation for FD and the derivative calculation for AD from either the current or freestream conditions and highlight the need for careful implementation of convergence criteria.

We attempt to make a comparative study of AD and FD gradients in an aerofoil optimisation, using the DERA CODAS method from the perspective of DERA's eventual aim, 3D viscous optimisation of wing-body configurations.

Application of Automatic Differentiation to Race Car Performance Optimisation

Daniele Casanova, Robin S. Sharp, Mark Final, Bruce Christianson and Pat Symonds

ABSTRACT A formal method for the evaluation of the minimum time vehicle manoeuvre is described. The problem is treated as one of optimal control and is solved using a direct transcription method. The resulting nonlinear programming problem is solved using the sequential quadratic programming algorithm SNOPT for constrained optimisation. The automatic differentiation software tool **AD_{opt}** is used for the evaluation of the first-order derivatives of objective and constraint functions with respect to the control variables. The implementation of automatic differentiation is more robust and ten times as fast compared to the use of a finite difference determination of the Jacobian.

Forth, Shaun A.; Evans, Trevor P. Aerofoil Optimisation via AD of a Multigrid Cell-Vertex Euler Flow Solver. 2002

Daniele Casanova, Robin S. Sharp, Mark Final, Bruce Christianson, Pat Symonds. "Application of Automatic Differentiation to Race Car Performance Optimisation" in Automatic Differentiation of Algorithms: From Simulation to Optimization, Springer, 2002

End-to-end differentiable pipelines

- Complex experimental setups can be composed of a pipeline of a series of distinct simulators (e.g., SHERPA -> GEANT)
- One might need to differentiate through the whole end-to-end pipeline, which can be achieved by compositionality and the chain rule

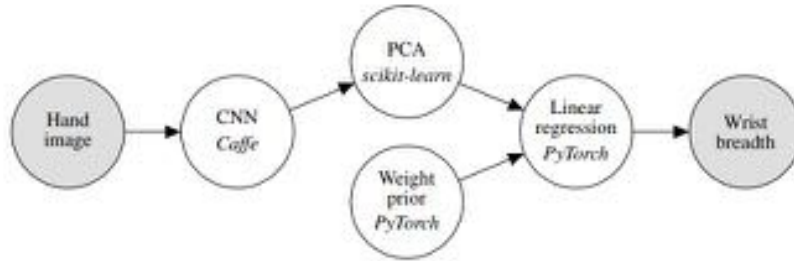


Figure 2: Example pipeline for predicting a physiological feature (wrist breadth) from images of hands using four primitives in three different frameworks.



DARPA Data Driven Discovery of Models (D3M)

<https://datadrivendiscovery.org/>

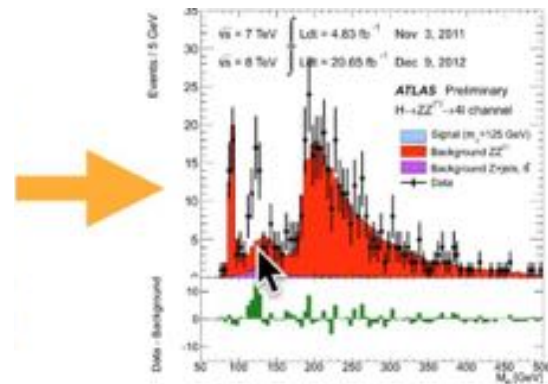
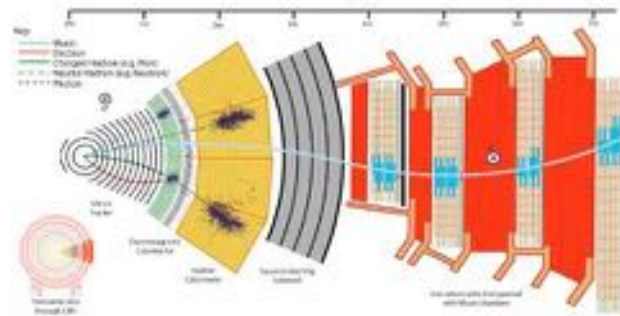
Differentiable programming in particle physics

- **Differentiable analysis pipelines**

Unify analysis pipeline by simultaneously optimizing the free parameters of an analysis with respect to the desired physics objective

- **Gradient-based inference (probabilistic programming)**

Enable efficient simulation-based inference, reducing the number of events needed by orders of magnitude



Baydin, Cranmer, Feickert, Gray, Heinrich, Held, Melo, Neubauer, Parkes, Simpson, Smith, Stark, Thais, Vassilev, Watts. 2020. "Differentiable Programming in High-Energy Physics." In Snowmass 2021 Letters of Interest (LOI), Division of Particles and Fields (DPF), American Physical Society. <https://snowmass21.org/loi>.

End-to-end differentiable pipelines

- Complex experimental setups can be composed of a pipeline of a series of distinct simulators (e.g., SHERPA -> GEANT)
- One might need to differentiate through the whole end-to-end pipeline, which can be achieved by compositionality and the chain rule

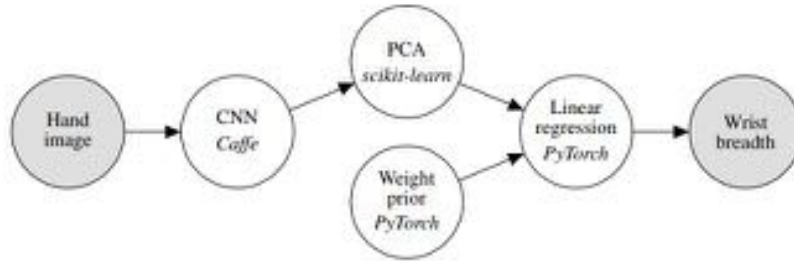


Figure 2: Example pipeline for predicting a physiological feature (wrist breadth) from images of hands using four primitives in three different frameworks.



DARPA Data Driven Discovery of Models (D3M)

<https://datadrivendiscovery.org/>

DiffSharp

DiffSharp

- An autodiff library in F#
- Supporting arbitrary nesting of forward/reverse AD
- a higher-order differentiation API
- Based on Barak Pearlmutter and Jeffrey Siskind's functional AD work (e.g., R6RS-AD)

<https://diffsharp.github.io/>



DiffSharp



	Op.	Value	Type signature	AD
$f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$	diff	f'	$(\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$	X, F
	diff'	(f, f')	$(\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \rightarrow (\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R})$	X, F
	diff2	f''	$(\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$	X, F
	diff2'	(f, f'')	$(\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \rightarrow (\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R})$	X, F
	diff2''	(f, f', f'')	$(\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \rightarrow (\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R})$	X, F
	diffn	$f^{(n)}$	$\mathbb{N} \rightarrow (\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$	X, F
	diffn'	$(f, f^{(n)})$	$\mathbb{N} \rightarrow (\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \rightarrow (\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R})$	X, F
$f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$	grad	∇f	$(\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$	X, R
	grad'	$(f, \nabla f)$	$(\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n)$	X, R
	gradv	$\nabla f \cdot \mathbf{v}$	$(\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$	X, F
	gradv'	$(f, \nabla f \cdot \mathbf{v})$	$(\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R})$	X, F
	hessian	\mathbf{H}_f	$(\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$	X, R-F
	hessian'	(f, \mathbf{H}_f)	$(\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^{n \times n})$	X, R-F
	hessianv	$\mathbf{H}_f \mathbf{v}$	$(\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$	X, F-R
	hessianv'	$(f, \mathbf{H}_f \mathbf{v})$	$(\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n)$	X, F-R
	gradhessian	$(\nabla f, \mathbf{H}_f)$	$(\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^{n \times n})$	X, R-F
	gradhessian'	$(f, \nabla f, \mathbf{H}_f)$	$(\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^{n \times n})$	X, R-F
	gradhessianv	$(\nabla f \cdot \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{H}_f \mathbf{v})$	$(\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n)$	X, F-R
	gradhessianv'	$(f, \nabla f \cdot \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{H}_f \mathbf{v})$	$(\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n)$	X, F-R
	laplacian	$\text{tr}(\mathbf{H}_f)$	$(\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$	X, R-F
	laplacian'	$(f, \text{tr}(\mathbf{H}_f))$	$(\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R})$	X, R-F
$f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$	jacobian	\mathbf{J}_f	$(\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$	X, F/R
	jacobian'	(f, \mathbf{J}_f)	$(\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^{m \times n})$	X, F/R
	jacobianv	$\mathbf{J}_f \mathbf{v}$	$(\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$	X, F
	jacobianv'	$(f, \mathbf{J}_f \mathbf{v})$	$(\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^m)$	X, F
	jacobianT	\mathbf{J}_f^T	$(\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$	X, F/R
	jacobianT'	(f, \mathbf{J}_f^T)	$(\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^{n \times m})$	X, F/R
	jacobianTv	$\mathbf{J}_f^T \mathbf{v}$	$(\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$	X, R
	jacobianTv'	$(f, \mathbf{J}_f^T \mathbf{v})$	$(\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^n)$	X, R
	jacobianTv''	$(f, \mathbf{J}_f^T \cdot)$	$(\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^m \times (\mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n))$	X, R
	curl	$\nabla \times \mathbf{f}$	$(\mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$	X, F
	curl'	$(f, \nabla \times \mathbf{f})$	$(\mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3)$	X, F
	div	$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{f}$	$(\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$	X, F
	div'	$(f, \nabla \cdot \mathbf{f})$	$(\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R})$	X, F
	curldiv	$(\nabla \times \mathbf{f}, \nabla \cdot \mathbf{f})$	$(\mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R})$	X, F
	curldiv'	$(f, \nabla \times \mathbf{f}, \nabla \cdot \mathbf{f})$	$(\mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R})$	X, F

DiffSharp 1.0

- Major reimplementaion with Don Syme (Microsoft/GitHub Next)
- Introduce tensor backends, default being libtorch (PyTorch's core in C++ / CUDA)
- Uses libtorch tensors without autograd, implements its own computation graph and differentiation code
- F# notebooks in Jupyter, VS Code
- Supports MacOS, Linux, Windows, CUDA



```
let encoder =  
  Conv2d(1, 32, 4, 2)  
  --> dsharp.relu  
  --> Conv2d(32, 64, 4, 2)  
  --> dsharp.relu  
  --> Conv2d(64, 128, 4, 2)  
  --> dsharp.flatten(1)  
  
let decoder =  
  dsharp.unflatten(1, [128;1;1])  
  --> ConvTranspose2d(128, 64, 4, 2)  
  --> dsharp.relu  
  --> ConvTranspose2d(64, 32, 4, 3)  
  --> dsharp.relu  
  --> ConvTranspose2d(32, 1, 4, 2)  
  --> dsharp.sigmoid  
  
let model = VAE([1;28;28], 64, encoder, decoder)  
  
printfn "Model\n%s" (model.summary())  
  
let optimizer = Adam(model, lr=dsharp.tensor(0.001))
```

colab.research.google.com/drive/1POp8gzyV6we6nhHYe0EYvcitnjeldUE

diffsharp.ipynb

File Edit View Insert Runtime Tools Help

+ Code + Text

RAM Disk Editing

```
!bash <(curl -Ls https://raw.githubusercontent.com/gbaydin/scripts/main/colab_dotnet5.sh)
```

DiffSharp 1.0



Can be the basis for your new probabilistic programming systems!

Currently working on a PyProb analog in F# with support for PPX

```
type GaussianUnknownMean() =
    inherit Model()
    override _.forward() =
        let mu = dsharp.sample(Normal(dsharp.tensor(1.),
                                     dsharp.tensor(0.1)), "mu")

        ()

let model = GaussianUnknownMean()

let numTraces = 1000
let prior = model.prior(numTraces)
let priorMu = prior.map (fun trace -> trace.[ "mu" ].value)
let priorMuMean = priorMu.mean
let priorMuMeanCorrect = dsharp.tensor(1.)

print priorMuMean
print priorMuMeanCorrect
Assert.True(priorMuMeanCorrect.allclose(priorMuMean, 0.1))
```

Joining the community



Machine-learning Optimized Design of Experiments (MODE)

Collaboration of ML and physics people at CERN, Padova, UC Louvain, Liege, Oxford, NYU, Rutgers, Uppsala, TU-Munchen, Durham and other places

Use **differentiable programming** in design optimization of **detectors for particle physics**, industrial applications

<https://mode-collaboration.github.io/>



Machine-learning Optimized Design of Experiments (MODE)

MODE Workshop series on Differentiable Programming for Experiment design

- 6-8 Sep 2021: Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium
- 12-16 Sep 2022: Orthodox Academy of Crete, Greece
- **Abstract submission deadline: 31 Jul 2022**

<https://indico.cern.ch/event/1145124/abstracts/>

White papers

AG Baydin, K Cranmer, P de Castro Manzano, C Delaere, D Derkach, J Donini, T Dorigo, A Giammanco, J Kieseler, L Layer, G Louppe, F Ratnikov, G Strong, M Tosi, A Ustyuzhanin, P Vischia, H Yarar. 2021. **“Toward Machine Learning Optimization of Experimental Design.”** Nuclear Physics News 31 (1). Taylor & Francis: 25–28. doi:10.1080/10619127.2021.1881364

AG Baydin, K Cranmer, M Feickert, L Gray, L Heinrich, A Held, A Melo, M Neubauer, J Pearkes, N Simpson, N Smith, G Stark, S Thais, V Vassilev, G Watts. 2020. **“Differentiable Programming in High-Energy Physics.”** In Snowmass 2021 Letters of Interest (LOI), Division of Particles and Fields (DPF), American Physical Society. <https://snowmass21.org/loi>



MIAPbP program

Munich Institute for Astro-, Particle and BioPhysics,
Technical University of Munich

Month-long program in **Differentiable and Probabilistic Programming for Fundamental Physics**

- Organizers: Lukas Heinrich, Torsten Enßlin, Michael Kagan, Atılım Güneş Baydin, Vassil Vassilev
- Bringing together **probabilistic programming** and **fundamental physics** communities
- Hosted in Munich during 5 - 30 Jun 2023
- Registration deadline: 3 Oct 2022

<https://www.munich-iapbp.de/probabilistic-programming>



Thank you for listening

Questions?

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